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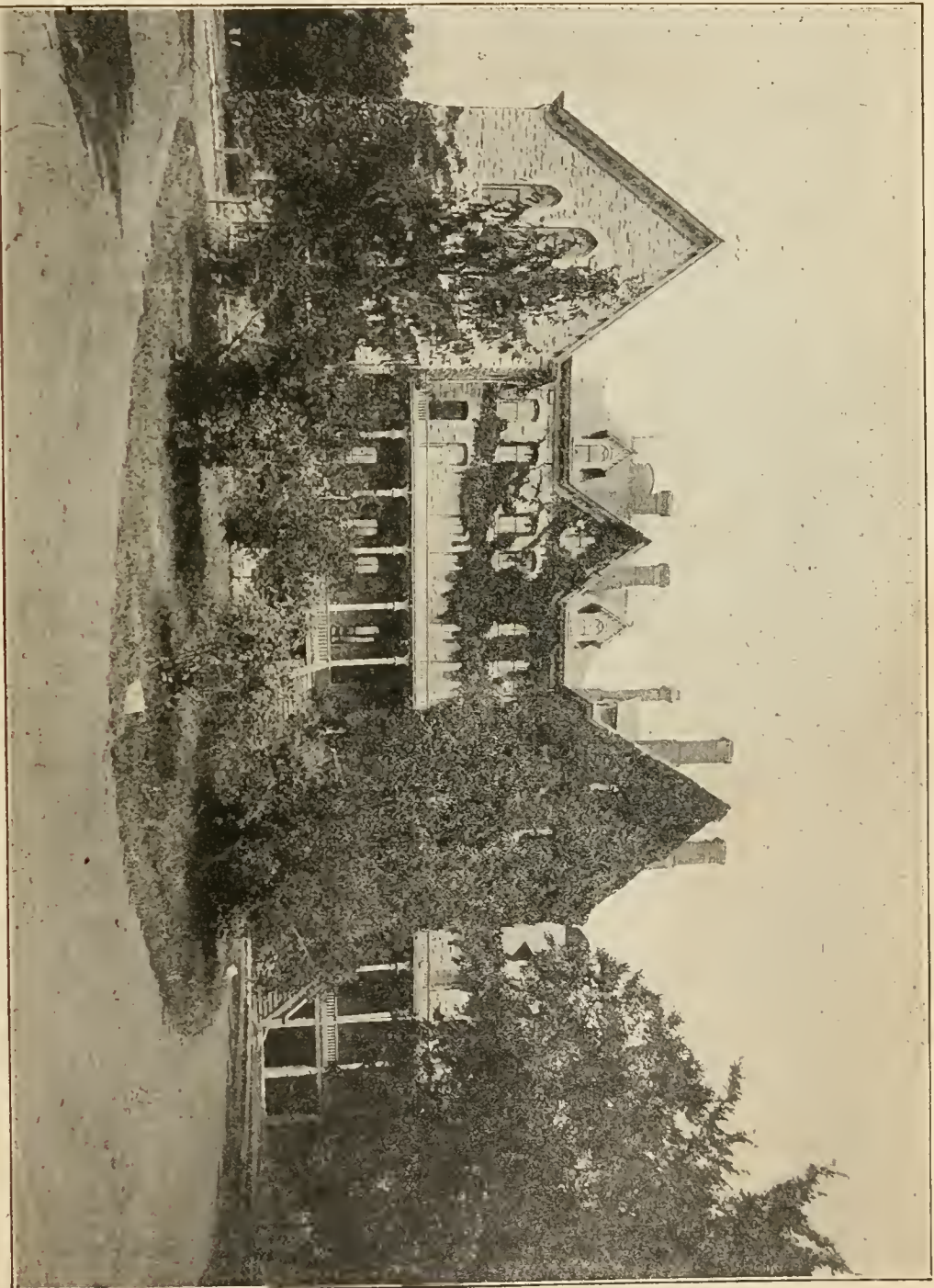
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Wabaunsee County

Independent Telephone Co.

This is the new telephone company which has lately bought out the Wabaunsee Telephone Company. The telephone system in Wabaunsee County began operations June 25th, 1898, with twelve subscribers under the management of the McMahan Telephone Exchange. The lines soon extended to the neighboring towns and by 1900 Topeka was reached. In 1902 there were 110 'phones in Alma, 70 in Eskridge, and 41 on the rural lines. In 1903 the McMahan Telephone Company was succeeded by the Wabaunsee County Telephone Company. Since that time the system has been greatly extended. At present there are five central offices—Alma, Altavista, Eskridge, McFarland, and Maple Hill, employing ten operators. Toll lines from Topeka to Dwight; also St. Marys, Rossville, Harveyville, and Allen have connections with the Paxico, Keene, and Harveyville Mutual and all Mutual exchanges in Morris County, Manhattan and Burlingame; also with all Independent Companies' lines running into three adjoining counties, Shawnee, Pottawatomie and Morris.

There are about eighty-four miles of pole lines, seventy miles of city wire, and two hundred and fifty-five miles of rural toll lines. The total number of telephones in use exceed 525, of which 275 are in and about Alma. Four men are regularly employed keeping the lines in order.

The improvements being made at present are the installment of new switch-boards at Alma and McFarland and the building of new rural lines.

The stockholders of the present company are: C. B. Henderson, Alma; J. R. Henderson, Alma; J. Y. Waugh, Eskridge; M. F. Trivett, Eskridge; B. R. Henderson, Eskridge; J. N. Dolley, Maple Hill.

The officers are: C. B. Henderson, President; J. N. Dolley, Vice-President; J. R. Henderson, Secretary and Treasurer.

The company is capitalized on \$50,000.

Business Directory

AND

History

OF

Wabaunsee County

PUBLISHED BY

The Kansas Directory Company

OF

Topeka, Kansas

1907

Publisher's Announcement

In presenting the Business Directory and Official History of Wabaunsee County, we believe we have the most valuable reference book ever gotten up for any county in Kansas, and desire to make due acknowledgement to the enterprising and public-spirited business men of the county for their assistance and cooperation. Otherwise it would not have been possible to have gotten out so valuable a publication and make a success with this our first county directory.

The Kansas Directory Company has published several directories, notably the Kansas Produce Directory and the Kansas Real Estate Directory, and this book is the first attempt at a County Directory, and the publishers are encouraged to make a special feature of this line of work in Kansas.

The publishers take great pleasure in acknowledging the efficient and enthusiastic services of our special literary writers, Mrs. Mary Emma Montgomery and Miss Elizabeth N. Barr of Topeka. Of Mrs. Montgomery, Hon. Geo. W. Martin, Secretary of the State Historical Society, says:

"Mrs. Mary Emma Montgomery is a native of Ohio and came to Hays City, Kansas in 1877 with her father J. B. Milner. In 1879 she married Frank C. Montgomery, editor of the Hays City Sentinel. She has made her home in Kansas ever since, excepting for four years in the early eighties, when she was in Tacoma and Seattle, Washington Territory, where her husband edited newspapers. She was educated in the Alliance, Ohio, high school. She is the mother of three sons, Franklin Terence of San Francisco, Paul Milner of Topeka and William Penn, of Topeka. The youngest son recently graduated from the law department of the Kansas State University. Frank C. Montgomery, recently deceased, as all people know, was a brilliant editorial writer for many years connected with the *Kansas City*

Journal. Mrs. Montgomery has excellent literary ability with a taste for historical work."

Miss Elizabeth N. Barr, Secretary of the Kansas Authors' Club, and author of Washburn Ballads, has written a number of notable articles and has been quite a contributor of verse and prose for the Kansas press.

Governor Hoch gave Miss Barr the following letter of introduction to Wabaunsee County people:

"June 14, 1907.

To the People of Wabaunsee County:

I understand that Miss Elizabeth N. Barr contemplates writing a history of Wabaunsee County. One of the beautiful booklets in my Kansas collection is a little book of poems by Miss Barr. She is a gifted young lady and I am quite sure will write the story of Wabaunsee County in a charming manner. She is a Washburn girl and I commend her as worthy of the confidence of those who meet her.

Very respectfully,

(Signed)

E. W. HOCH."

The editions of the Wabaunsee County Business Directory is limited to three thousand copies, and owing to a large advance sale the supply will soon be exhausted, but until then we will fill orders for a single book at one dollar or make a special rate for quantity. It is a magnificent book to send to friends and customers by patriotic residents of Wabaunsee County.

THE KANSAS DIRECTORY COMPANY.

Topeka, Kansas, August 15, 1907.

Standard Directories for Sale at Special Prices

Kansas Real Estate Directory—in cloth, \$1.00. Regular price, \$2.00.

Kansas Produce Directory—Paper \$1.00; in cloth, \$1.50. Regular price, \$3.00 and \$5.00.

Shippers' Record Book—Book for shippers of all kinds of produce. In boards, \$1.00.

Stock Breeders Annual and Kansas Breeders Directory—Price, \$1.00, sell for 50 cents.

Address all orders to Kansas Directory Co., 625 Jackson St., Topeka, Kans.



H. W. Steinmeyer, Volland, Kans.

Mr. H. W. Steinmeyer, who lives five miles southeast of Volland, is making a specialty of fine blooded Duroc-Jerseys. He has a fine herd and is enjoying a good business. He started his herd ten years ago, and besides his immediate home trade, which is large, he is shipping to Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, and Missouri. We can venture a guess that Mr. Steinmeyer knows his business in the hog line.

Egypt Lad 34032 is at head of the herd. Following are a few of the sows kept in the herd at the present time: Miss Topnotcher 108816, Can Be Choice 112380, Volland Ferry 83624, Royal Gold Dust 122970, Bessie Wonder 112382. You can make no mistake in buying from this herd.

Mr. Steinmeyer also handles the Red Polled cattle, which herd he started five years ago with Mike Sunflower 12567 at head of herd, which is a son of the champion bull of Iowa. Last fall a young bull was added to the herd which is out of Lawn Fall 13221.

On further conversation with Mr. Steinmeyer we find he is keeping a flock of the Single Comb Rhode Island Red chickens, which is perhaps of great interest to many who wish the very best stock.

His farm contains 320 acres and lays in the very heart of the alfalfa land.

In answer to our questions, Mr. Steinmeyer said: "Yes, the fine stock business has my undivided attention and I have been able so far to fill my orders. The hogs and cattle which I put out are great advertisers for me."

Wabaunsee County

INDIANS.

Wabaunsee County is one of unusual interest to the student of Kansas history, by reason of its location, Indian reservations, early settlement, and war record.

Its locality according to the belief of many of its people, would seem to fit the description of Quivera,

"In that half forgotten era,"

given by Coronado in the old Spanish documents concerning his explorations in 1542. Mr. J. V. Brower, an archaeologist of note, has spent years in research over this and adjoining counties, and many valuable archaeological collections have been made which would seem to substantiate the belief of many people that the Quivera Indians once lived on the soil of Wabaunsee County. Great interest is shown in historical matters. A Quivera Historical Society was formed at Alma in 1901 to continue the research and preserve records. The Legislature of 1907 passed a bill authorizing the Board of Commissioners of Wabaunsee County to provide for the use of the Wabaunsee County Historical Society, a room in one of its county buildings for its museum and library, and were authorized to appropriate \$1,200 out of the county funds for the purpose of providing and erecting a room for the use of that society. The Quivera society joined in the dedication of the monument erected and completed August 12th, 1902, by Capt. Robert Henderson, at Logan Grove, Geary County, in commemoration of the exploration of Coronado in the country of the Quivera and Harahey Indians.

It is interesting to note that there is a difference of opinion as to Coronado's line of march. Mr. W. E. Richey, the archaeologist of Harveyville, who has his own ideas on this subject, has an interesting collection of Indian specimens and an old Spanish sword which he deposited with the Historical Society in the State House at Topeka.

Whatever tribes composed the aborigines, Quivera's or Hara-

hey's, it is known that prior to 1846 the land embraced in Wabaunsee County was claimed by the Kansas or Kaw Indians. In 1833, Rev. Isaac McCoy, a missionary who had charge of the location of the Indian tribes, was sold to this locality to survey a portion of land for the Shawnee Indians. In 1846, by treaty with the Kaws, the Pottawatomie Indians of Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Indiana, were given a portion of land thirty miles square beginning two miles west of Topeka, into Wabaunsee, Pottawatomie, and Jackson Counties. This reservation extended over one-fourth the area of Wabaunsee County and was occupied by over two thousand Indians. The Kaws had been given a reservation in the southern part of the county. All these lands had been allotted in severalty or thrown open for settlement by 1872. The Pottawatomies of the Woods and the Kaws went to the Indian Territory. The Prairie Band of Pottawatomie Indians still lives on the reservation given them in Jackson County.

ORIGINAL FORMATION AND NAME.

In 1855, the Territorial Legislature defined a certain portion of land west of Shawnee County, and attached to that county for business and judicial purposes, which they named Richardson County. As such it had no county officers or records. It was named after Wm. Richardson, of Illinois, who introduced the first Kansas and Nebraska Bill in the House of Representatives. On account of his political sentiments the name of the county was changed in 1859 to Wabaunsee, after Chief Wabaunsee of the Pottawatomies. The name signifies "Dawn of Day." An old map of "Richardson County, Kansas Territory," published in 1855, before the survey, shows the Pottawatomie reservation in the northeast, Kaw reservation in the southwest, a proposed railroad from Kansas City to Ft. Riley, the Mormon Trail from Uniontown in Shawnee, southwest through the county, and the Santa Fe Trail crossing the corner at Wilmington.

ORGANIZATION.

The county was organized in March of 1859. There were two voting precincts, one at Alma and one at Wabaunsee village. There were 111 votes cast in the election of county officers

which resulted as follows: County Commissioners, Henry Harvey, J. M. Hubbard, G. Zwanziger; Probate Judge, J. M. Hubbard; Clerk of the Court, J. M. Harvey; Sheriff, John Hodgson; Register of Deeds, Moses C. Welch; County Attorney, R. G. Terry; Coroner, August Brasche; Treasurer, Henry Harvey; Surveyor, G. Zwanziger; Auditor, S. F. Ross; Superintendent of Public Instruction, J. E. Platt. The county was divided into four townships only. Wabaunsee was the first county seat, but in 1866 the large German population succeeded in changing it to Alma, as being more central. It is said that they named it for the river and battle of Alma in the Crimea, September 20, 1854.

The Territorial Legislature of 1855 defined the boundary lines of Richardson County as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of Shawnee County, nine miles south of the present southwest corner of that county, and seventy-two miles west of the Missouri line, then west twenty-four miles, then north to the middle of the channel of the Kansas River, then following the course of that river, eastward to the west line of Shawnee County, then south to the starting point. In 1860 Hon. C. B. Lines, member of the Territorial Legislature, succeeded in having a strip of land six miles wide and as long as the west line of the county, added to its confines. In 1864, the establishment of Morris County took from the southwest corner of Wabaunsee County seventy-two square miles of land. In the Legislature of 1868, Hon. Wm. Mitchell succeeded in reclaiming that land for the county. In 1869 it was again given to Morris County, but in the Legislature of 1870, a compromise was brought by which one-half was given to Morris and one-half to Wabaunsee. In 1871, when John Pinkerton was representative, the Legislature enacted a law detaching most of Zeandale Township from the county, giving it to Riley. After the bill had passed the House, and before it reached the Governor, it was illegally changed to take in a larger territory than named in the true bill. In 1872 and 1873 efforts were made to recover the illegally detached portion, finally resulting successfully when A. Sellers was Representative, but uniformity in the west boundary was never regained.

LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION.

Its location is in the fourth tier of counties from the east line of the State, about seventy-five miles from the Missouri River and about midway between the north and south boundaries of the State. It is bounded on the north by the Kansas River, Riley, Pottawatomie, and Shawnee Counties, on the east by Shawnee and Osage, on the south by Morris and Lyon, and its neighbors on the west are Riley, Geary and Morris. The surface of the county is very much broken, especially in the central portion, where there is a chain of bluffs. It is crossed by many streams and creeks along whose banks are fine growths of timber, including walnut, oak, cottonwood, hickory, and locust. The largest of these streams is Mill Creek, which, with its many tributaries, empties into the Kansas River near the northeast corner of the county. The bottom lands along the river are very fertile though not wide, varying from one-half mile to one and one-half miles in width. These bottom lands make up about fifteen per cent of the area of the county. The soil is very rich varying from two to ten feet in depth. The greater part of the county is upland prairie, whose soil where not faced with limestone, can not be excelled for grazing purposes. This abundance of pasturage and the bountiful water supply make Wabaunsee County of great importance in the matter of stock-raising. The highest point of land in the county is Buffalo Mound in Maple Hill Township, south of Mill Creek. From this point can be seen a view extending over forty miles in radius. There is a story that General J. C. Fremont camped near by and raised the flag on its summit, while on his way to the Pacific in 1843. This mound and other picturesque features of Maple Hill Township make the village of Maple Hill on the Rock Island railroad, a favorite summer resort with the people of adjacent counties.

SETTLEMENT.

The story of the early settlement of the county is full of interest. The first white men outside the reservations were evidently pirates of the prairie. They built a log house in 1842 near where Harveyville is now. Their purpose was to rob travelers on the several roads. From a high mound near by they could observe the Santa Fe Trail which was used before the

year 1800 and was well established by 1822. It was used by Mexican traders, paymasters, and gold-seekers. This nest of robbers was broken up after the killing of twenty-seven Mexican traders and the robbery of five hundred mules and treasure-box said to contain seventy-five thousand dollars in gold. Government authorities were notified, chase was given, nineteen of the robbers were shot in the fight, and five were sent to prison for life. The money was never recovered for the owner, but there is a story that a mysterious Englishman dug up the treasure-box from under the ruins of the log-house in 1895, and immediately left the place.

One of the first settlers in the county was Jacob Terras, a German, who located on Hendricks' Creek, one mile east of Alma, in 1853. Before 1854, John P. Gleich, Joseph and Peter Thoes, Frank Schmidt, R. Schrauder, and C. Schwanke had settled in different parts of the county. The first collective settlement was made in 1854 on the Kansas River in Wabaunsee Township, by a colony of about thirty-four people of mixed nationality. They made their settlement on Government land just outside the reservation. Among them were D. B. Hiatt, Peter and Bartholomew Sharer, Clark Lapham, J. Smith, Rev. Leonard, Robert Banks, J. Nesbit, and Horace W. Tabor. J. H. Nesbit was a secretary in the Free State Convention at Topeka in 1855. Horace W. Tabor, afterward Senator from Colorado, was a representative from Richardson County in 1856. He was a member of the Free State Party, and left the State for Colorado in 1859. Rev. Harvey Jones and wife were sent to this settlement as missionaries. He took up one hundred and sixty acres of Government land just outside the reservation on Emmons Creek, where he built a rude cabin. For several years this house was used for church, school, and postoffice. Harvey Jones was both preacher and postmaster. The mail arrived once a week from Tecumseh. In 1855 a German colony, composed mostly of single men, came to a place near the present site of Alma. Their plans for a town failed, and before a year passed most of them abandoned their claims and their chosen townsite was pre-empted by Gottlieb Zwanziger.

Among the Quakers who settled in Wilmington Township in 1854, was Henry Harvey, the historic character deserving of more than passing mention. He had come from Ohio to Kansas

in 1840 with the Shawnee Indians as their teacher in the Shawnee Mission School in Johnson County. He returned to Ohio in 1842 and began his "History of the Shawnee Indian from 1681 to 1854, inclusive." This volume is now very rare and contains one of the few written accounts of the flood in the Kaw valley in 1844. He was a great friend of the Indian and was appointed Government agent to the Osage tribe in 1850 by President Taylor. In 1854 he settled with his two sons on Dagoon Creek, near the present site of Harveyville, which was named in his honor. His book was published in Ohio in 1855.

BEECHER BIBLE AND RIFLE SOCIETY.

The largest colony that came to the county was "The Beecher Bible and Rifle Society." This was organized in 1856 in New Haven, Conn., inspired by the intense interest in the Kansas-Nebraska Bill. The colonists were assisted in their plans by citizens of their native State and by Henry Ward Beecher and his church, which furnished twenty-five rifles at \$25 each. Fifty-two rifles were bought for members not supplied, and when the colony left New Haven for Kansas March 29th, 1856, every one of its seventy men were armed with a Sharples rifle, a Bible, and hymn-book. Their avowed purpose was to aid in the establishment of liberty, good government, church, school, town, and a farm for each person. The company consisted of all classes—ministers, merchants, doctors, mechanics, laborers, and two had been in the Legislature of their native State. Five men brought their families and all came well provided with provisions. Farm implements were purchased at St. Louis and Kansas City, where also, cattle were bought. Sixty-five of the members arrived about May 1st, 1856, and established a camp at Wabaunsee, where they joined the 1854 colony. The Government had made only a partial survey, so their first work was to survey townships and divide them off into sections, after which each man chose his claim. Then the town site of Wabaunsee was chosen and named after the Indian Chief. The town company included nine of the settlers prior to the coming of the colony. Here was built the first school house with funds partly furnished by the editor of the New York Sun, and the historic stone church for which Connecticut furnished most of the building fund. Harvey

Jones was the first pastor. The committee of seven who organized the church society were S. H. Fairfield, Harvey Jones, Hiram Mabie, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Lines, and Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Pond. S. H. Fairfield was one of the volunteers to the colony in September, 1856, from Mendon, Illinois. Among these were S. R. Weed, Enoch Platt, J. E. Platt, and L. H. Platt. Many were the privations and struggles of this colony resulting from Indian depredations, drouth, flood, sickness, prairie-fires, and frequent Indian alarms. Many became discouraged and left the colony.

Among those from Connecticut who remained more than three months, we find the names of C. B. Lines, Wm. Hartley, J. D. Farren, George H. Coe, F. H. Hart, Silas M. Thomas, L. H. Root, J. M. Hubbard, Wm. Mitchell, O. Bardwell, Roland Moses, A. A. Cotteral, H. S. Hall, Benj. Street, J. J. Walter, T. C. P. Hyde, E. C. D. Lines, E. D. Street, Timothy Reed, H. M. Selden, George Wells, S. A. Baldwin, W. S. Griswold, Isaac Fenn, J. P. Root, J. F. Willard, H. D. Rice, H. Isbell, D. F. Scranton, E. J. Lines, F. W. Ingham, L. A. Parker, E. N. Peneld, R. W. Griswold, G. H. Thomas, M. C. Welch, B. C. Porter, F. Johnson, C. E. Pond, L. W. Clark, and W. G. McNary. The story of the colony will always occupy an honored place in the records of Kansas. Its men, wherever they scattered, had much to do with the history of the State. J. P. Root was the first Lieutenant-Governor of the State of Kansas—1861. Hon. C. B. Lines was most active in affairs of the State, representing his county several terms. J. M. Hubbard, Lieutenant Co. K., 11th Kansas, returned in after years to his native State, Connecticut, and served several terms in the Legislature of that State. The colony established farms, town, school, church, and a militia company. Thus was their original purpose accomplished. It is said this colony alone furnished twenty-seven men for the Civil War. During the settlement of this colony Richardson County was represented by H. W. Tabor. Hon. C. B. Lines was the first territorial representative of Wabaunsee County. E. J. Lines, A. Allen, and E. Hobeneke were in the first State Legislature in 1861, and J. M. Hubbard was its first State Senator. In 1855, Wabaunsee had one vote for State Capital.

EMIGRATION.

Before 1857 there had been a steady emigration of German families into the county, large numbers of whom settled in Alma Township. In that and other townships we find the name of Henry Krupp, Fred Palenske, Henry and J. Terras, E. Hohen-eck and G. Zwanziger, who built the first mill, which he afterwards sold to Lorenzo Pauly. Mr. Zwanziger sold part of his claim to the Alma Town Company, and surveyed it off into streets, blocks and lots. In Washington Township were located A. Brasche, Mr. Maxbrink, Adolph Patting and Henry Grimm, the hero of the Platte Bridge Indian Massacre. Ed Krapp, A. Hankammer, and John Spiecker settled in Farmer Township. Henry Schmidt, Wm. Drebing, B. Cline and J. Metzger settled in Mill Creek Township.

Wabaunsee County was especially favored, settled as it was principally by New Englanders of good education and high ideals, and by perhaps the most desirable of foreign emigration—Germans—whose descendants are to-day among the most influential, industrious, and prosperous people of the county.

SCHOOLS.

In the struggle for existence in the early days, the pioneers did not forget the education of their children. Prior to 1859 four school-houses were built, principally by private subscription. D. B. Hiatt was the first man to teach in the county, and Miss M. H. Cotton (Mrs. J. T. Glenn) was the first women teacher. The first school-house was built in Wabaunsee. Public school districts were organized in 1859 in three localities. The county was favored in having men of fine education at the head of its schools. The first county superintendent was J. E. Platt, afterward professor in the Agricultural College for twenty years. Supt. Robert Tunnell was afterward principal of Fairmount College at Wichita. Upon Supt. W. W. Ramey devolved the work of grading the county schools. Matthew Thompson, editor, was county superintendent for ten years. He rendered another valuable service to his county when he wrote his Wabaunsee County history, considered one of the best county histories in the Historical Library at Topeka. Florence Dickinson was county superintendent in 1890. George L. Clothier was

county superintendent in 1892. The present county superintendent is Fred I. Hinshaw of Alma. In 1863 there were fifteen school districts, in one of which there was held no school because of Indian raids. District No. 10, used the stone fort built in 1864 on the farm of August Wolgast. Many of the school-houses were built of logs. There are now eighty-nine organized school districts, sixty of which have libraries. There are Catholic schools at Alma and Paxico, a German Baptist school at Altavista, and a Lutheran school at Alma. The county has 4,204 persons of school age.

CIVIL WAR RECORD.

Soon after the arrival of the Beecher colony they formed a militia company called the Prairie Guards, which took part in the Wakarusa war in the summer of 1856. Its captain was Wm. Mitchell. At the beginning of the Civil War, the population was only 1,050, of whom about 250 were voters, and being composed largely of New Englanders were anti-slavery in belief. Out of about 200 men subject to military duty, 112 men enlisted, a record to be proud of. About one-half of them were in the famous 11th Kansas, over thirty were in the 8th Infantry, some were in different companies of cavalry, six were in the 2nd Infantry, in whose service Captain E. D. C. Lines lost his life. After the campaign against General Price in 1864, the 11th Kansas was ordered to the frontier for a campaign against the Indians in Wyoming. In the Platte Bridge Massacre, July, 1865, Sebastian Nehring of Alma was slain and his body horribly mutilated. Henry Glimm, late of Volland, received arrow wounds from which he suffered all his life. Adolph Hankammer was also wounded. It was the sad mission of Stephen H. Fairfield, now of Alma, to assist in burying the dead. In this bloody battle twenty-five men were killed and their bodies dismembered, two were wounded. The Civil War record of the county is so well known and valued that it is needless to give further detail.

The following enlisted in the Union Army and went into active service in the different regiments:

Second Infantry, Company B.—E. C. D. Lines, A. M. Reed, A. Hankimmer, H. L. Isbell, M. C. Welch, I. C. Isbell.

Eighth Infantry, Company E.—Capt. John Greelish, Wm. Richardson, R. M. Kendall, Wm. Blankenslip, Ephraim Smith,

J. P. Kendall, J. B. Bancks, G. W. Barnes, L. P. Cawkins, Charles Cooney, J. H. Dunmire, Daniel Spear, John Wells, S. Brickford, Charles Burns, J. H. Cummings, Henry Grimm, A. W. Harris, Z. Johnson, J. W. Johnson, Henry Lutz, Amos Reese, A. J. Smith, S. J. Speer, John Saylor, F. M. Weaver.

The following enlisted in the cavalry service:

Second Cavalry, Company A.—W. C. Studibaker; Company B. James Dickson; Company F. —Charles Ross, W. B. Dotty, G. W. Eddy, G. F. Hartwell, A. S. Waters, S. B. Easter, Eli Watson; Company K.—C. E. Bisby, Columbus Foster, A. H. Kelsey.

Fifth Cavalry, Company A.—Hamilton Davis; Company L.—B. C. Benedict.

Sixth Cavalry, Company F.—Joseph Weisse, E. W. Wetzold.

Eighth Cavalry, Company E.—Haynie Tomson.

Eleventh Cavalry, Company E.—Benj. Cripps, Ira Hodgson, A. D. McCoy, George Hodgson, I. H. Isbell, G. H. Hill, A. H. Brown, J. N. Smith, George Ross, Riley Frizzle, Albert Kees, Wm. Mahan, W. F. Isbell, W. H. Lapham, L. J. Mossman, Samuel Sage, C. G. Town, Samuel Woods; Company G.—J. F. Chapman; Company I.—H. C. Thompson; Company K.—Capt. J. M. Allen, Lieut. J. M. Hubbard, J. H. Pinkerton, J. B. Allen, Moritz Krauz, D. Schwanke, P. C. Pinkerton, W. A. Yimbocker, Henry Grimm, S. H. Fairfield, Albert Dieball, C. D. Ensign, Isaac Fenn, Edward Hoffman, Jacob Isler, Hiram Keyes, A. T. McCormick, J. M. McCormick, John McNair, Sebast. Nehring, G. Siegrist, R. M. Widney, Wm. Wiley, R. P. Blain, R. J. Earl; Company L.—Lieut. J. VanAntwerp, J. T. Green, C. B. Cotton, E. A. Kelsey, Wm. Smith, John Smith; Company M.—John N. Doty.

A comparison between the enlistments of 1861 and 1898 is interesting. In 1861, 112 men volunteered out of a population of 1,050. In the Spanish-American War, 1898, 29 men enlisted out of a population of 12,172. Undoubtedly many enlisted in the regular army at Fort Riley. The enlistment in the volunteer regiments was as follows:

Twenty-First Regiment, Co. G.—Hugo Brandt, Second Lieutenant (resigned); Charles Dilley, Sergeant; Ralph Lane, Corporal; Julius C. Behnke, Corporal; Frank Davis, Albert Eisenhart, Gustavo Kratzer, Edward Mann, Albert F. Miller, Chris. Mungerson, Elmer Motz, Charles G. Davis, Frank Davis. All

these were from Alma. In the same company were Kelley Crozier, Artificer, and Henry Adam from Volland; Wm. R. Bradley, Alta Vista; Arthur Griffith, Bradford; Benton H. Jackson, of Keene; Royal S. Wood, Wabaunsee; Wm. E. Walker, Maple Hill; Bert G. Loveland, Keene.

Co. M.—Earl E. Dilley, Alma; Clarence E. Younker and Clyde F. Younker, of McFarland.

Co. I.—George Heubner, Corporal, Alma.

Attached to Staff, Twenty-First Regiment—Winstead Deans, Alma; Bert G. Loveland, Keene.

Twenty-Second Regiment, Co. I.—Richard S. Goodwin, Corporal, and Barndt Nelson, both of Maple Hill.

Twenty-Third Regiment, Co. H.—Wm. Buck, Paxico, in service in Cuba from August, 1898, to March, 1899.

Twenty-one of the men were in Co. G, Twenty-First Regiment, recruited at Osage City, May 13th, 1898. They were stationed most of the time at Camp George H. Thomas, near Lysle, Ga. Much sickness prevailed in this camp where Henry Allen, of Volland, gave up his life in Leiter Hospital, August 25th, 1898. The regiment was moved to Camp Hamilton, Ky., August 26th, where it stayed until ordered to Ft. Leavenworth, September 27th. It was mustered out December 10th, 1898.

The men of the Twenty-Second Regiment were most of the time at Camp Algr, Va., when they were ordered on a march of fifty miles to Thoroughfare, Va., arriving August 9th; then by rail to Camp Meade, Middletown, Pa., August 29th; ordered to Ft. Leavenworth, September 9th, mustered out November 3rd, 1898. It was a source of greatest disappointment to the men of these regiments that they were not given a chance in active field service.

RESOURCES AND INDUSTRIES.

The resources of the county are varied, but it is particularly adapted to stock-raising as nearly seventy-five per cent of its area is most suitable for pasturage, with an abundant water-supply. Hay is a product of great importance, vast quantities being used or shipped out. Corn is its best field crop and it claims to lead in yield of sweet potatoes. There are more than seventy thousand fruit trees, over half of which are apple. It stands high in the State in the number and value of its cattle.

Naturally the principal industry of the county is stock-raising. Its many successful stock-breeders aim to reach the highest perfection in pure-bred stock. Eighteen of its stockmen belong to the Kansas Improved Stock Breeders' Association.

Wabaunsee County has a great treasure in her hills, unsurpassed for building as well as lime and cement making purposes. Limestone is found all over the county in ledges from one to six feet. This industry furnishes employment to many hundreds of men, the out-put being shipped in all directions for many purposes from railway ballast and bridge building to pretentious city structures. There seems to be an unlimited supply of this stone, the largest quarries being located at Eskridge and Alma. Salt works are located at Alma, which at one time shipped from thirty to fifty barrels a day, but seem to have been abandoned.

From the report of F. D. Coburn, Secretary of Agriculture, we learn that in 1896 the value of the field crops was \$1,731,074. The "Helpful Hen" scored next, in value of poultry and eggs sold \$118,347. The "Sister of the Beef Steer" produced \$47,746 worth of butter, \$33,259 worth of milk sold, and \$4,387 worth of cheese. The value of honey crop was \$2,400. The wool clip was worth \$300. The wood marketed amounted to \$1,801. Wabaunsee ranks fifty-six in the State with a population of 12,014 in 1906. Its assessed valuation is \$3,213,464.

COUNTY REPRESENTATION.

Wabaunsee County is in the Thirty-fifth Judicial District, in the Twenty-first Senatorial District, in the Forty-ninth Legislative District and the Fourth Congressional District. J. N. Dolley, of Maple Hill, is the State Senator, and Wyatt Roush is its Representative. The county has thirteen townships, embracing 804 square miles, or 514,560 acres. The population of the largest towns in 1906 is given thus: Alma, county seat, 814; Eskridge, 806; Alta Vista, 411; McFarland, 311; Harveyville, 262; Maple Hill, 246; Paxico, 244.

The present county officers are C. C. Stotler, Clerk, Alma; L. J. McCrumb, Treasurer, Alma; Frank Schmidt, Sheriff, Alma; Oscar Schmitz, County Attorney, Alma; L. L. Teas, Clerk District Court, Alma; J. A. Bisley, Register of Deeds, Alma; Joseph Little, Probate Judge, Alma; F. I. Hinshaw, County

Superintendent, Alma; L. B. Burt, Surveyor, Wabaunsee; Geo. A. King, Coroner, Paxico. Commissioners: First District, B. Buchli, Alma; Second District, W. K. Beach, Maple Hill; Third District, J. J. Mails, Wabaunsee.

The county seat was located at Alma in 1866, after a spirited contest with Wabaunsee, the first county seat, and other towns. There had been no permanent buildings erected in Wabaunsee for county purposes. When the Alma site was chosen there was not a single house upon it. In 1867 a small frame building was erected to receive the county records. The sum paid to Gottlieb Zwanziger for the site was only \$200. He surveyed it off in streets, blocks, and lots. The town was incorporated as a village in 1868. The members of the first village council were: Chairman S. R. Weed, August Meryor, Henry Schmidt, John Winkler, and Herman Dirker. S. R. Weed was also Probate Judge and N. H. Whittemore was attorney for the council.

INSTITUTIONS.

The first newspaper was *The Wabaunsee County Herald*, published by A. Sellers and G. W. Bertram in April, 1869. The following papers are now published in the county: *Alma Enterprise*, Republican, Frank I. Sage and O. W. Little, editors and publishers; *Alma Signal*, Republican, H. C. Sticher, editor and publisher; *Eskridge Star*, Republican, Dow Busenbark, editor and publisher; *Wabaunsee County Tribune*, Republican, W. H. Melrose, editor; *Alta Vista Journal*, neutral, James A. Shilling; Harveyville Monitor, independent, Jos. Frishman, editor, Printing Company, publisher.

The first Catholic service in Alma was conducted by Father Remelee. The first Lutheran service was held by Rev. Senne. The oldest church in the county was built in 1862 at Wabaunsee by the Congregationalists.

The first railroad reached the county in 1880, built by the Santa Fe, called The Manhattan, Alma & Burlingame. From McFarland north it is now operated by the Rock Island, which built its road through the county in 1886. There are 75.52 miles of main track.

The first steamboat passing up the river was the "Excel," Captain Baker, in 1854. The log of the Steamer "Guss Linn" going

from Kansas City to Fort Riley in 1859, reported as follows: "May 16th, 1859. Reached Wabaunsee, containing one store and fifteen houses."

The telephone franchise was granted in 1898, to J. H. McMahan, beginning with twelve telephones.

The Rural Mail Delivery reached the county in 1901 in Maple Hill township.

We note the change in population in forty-six years:

1860.	1,023	1902.	12,134
1870.	3,362	1903.	12,391
1880.	8,759	1904.	12,160
1890.	10,780	1905.	11,910
1900.	12,299	1906.	12,014
1901.	12,406		

THE FLOOD.

The slight variation of population between 1901 and 1906, must be ascribed to the fact that the small tracts of land were bought up for pasture by stockmen, rather than any other reason. It takes more than an occasional dry spell or an infrequent flood to drive out the average Wabaunsee man. When Enoch Platt joined the Beecher Colony in 1856 and looked about for a claim, he consulted William Mitchell, who pointed to the bottom lands of the Kaw. Platt refused the proffered location and chose land higher up with the prophesy that the river would one day overflow. S. H. Fairfield says that few of the settlers of 1856 took land on the river, preferring the uplands. They were no doubt influenced by the warning of the Indians, whose losses in the flood of 1844 were still fresh in their minds. In after years, having witnessed no alarming overflow, they gained confidence in the old Kaw and took up the fertile land along its banks.

The warnings and the prophesy had long since been forgotten when people awoke on the 28th of May, 1903, to a realization that a flood was upon them. Some remembered the warning in time, others held the fort in their homes until rescued by their neighbors, some of whom were fortunate enough to have boats. No loss of life was reported, but the loss of homes, land, stock, crops, orchards, implements, and household treas-

ures was immense and could not be adequately reckoned in figures. Along the Kaw the utter desolation of the scene was beyond description. The river was from two to ten miles wide and its bridges gone or badly damaged. All the creeks and streams in the county were swollen and many of their bridges washed away. The river extended over two miles south of the Wamego bridge, some places twenty feet deep. New channels were formed which would rob one man to his neighbor's advantage. One man was given a lake while another was left on an island. Great trees and even groves of trees were swept away and cellars were gouged out under houses that possessed none before. Orchards were ruined and all crops on the bottom lands were carried away. Many dwellings, barns, and outbuildings and the school-houses in District 52, floated down the river. Receding waters left sandbanks piled against the houses and floors were covered with sand, sometimes as high as the door-knobs.

In looking over the files of newspapers of the county for that week, two stories impressed one aside from the record of destruction during the flood-time. One was an account of the removal of Mrs. Robert Earl, from her home at Zeandale, on the bottom, to a place of safety. Mrs. Earl was one of the settlers in 1856, when Zeandale Township belonged to Richardson County, and her death occurred after the flood, June 8th. Another story was that of the marooning of three passenger trains, containing near 400 people, at McFarland; the efforts to provide food enough for such a crowd; the benefit ball given in Arnold's Hall, the tickets for which were printed thus: "Wash-out Ball, by the Victim's Amusement Co., McFarland Island, June 1, 1903."

All this is too recent to be classed as history, but no story of the county would be complete without some tribute to the indomitable spirit and enterprise of its people, who refuse to be overcome by fire, drouth or flood. Whatever the calamity they were quick to recover their losses. If it was fire, new and better buildings were built; if drouth, patience endured until the next season. As soon as possible after the flood, corn was planted for the second time, and farmers and real estate men were claiming that the soil would be benefited in the end by the overflow.

Thus they rise above all difficulties. It must be the Spirit of '56.

STOCK BUSINESS IN WABAUNSEE COUNTY.

One of the most important industries in Wabaunsee County is cattle-pasturing and stock-raising. Both are engaged in to a great extent and bring considerable money into the county. This county being the "Switzerland of Kansas," is particularly adapted to pasturage. The four creeks and their tributaries furnish water in abundance at all times, while the native grass on the hills is of such a high quality that cattle pasturage usually brings fifty cents more per head than any other localities.

The cattle are brought here from Texas about May 1st, for the season. The main points for unloading cattle are Alma, Harveyville, Eskridge, Halifax, Volland, and Altavista. There are from thirty to forty thousand head of cattle pastured in the county yearly at \$3.00 to \$3.50 and as high as \$4.00 per head. Most of these animals are steers and it is not an uncommon thing for one animal to gain several hundred pounds during the season.

Native grade cattle are raised extensively in Wabaunsee County, which sold off the grass last fall for 6 cents per pound. Coburn's report shows the number of milch cows in the county in 1906 to be 9,523 with a value of \$257,121, and the number of other cattle to be 35,074 with a value of \$701,480. These figures compared with those of the previous year show that while the aggregate number of cattle is less, the aggregate price is nearly \$200,000 more than in 1905. This increase in the value per head may be due to the natural rise in price, but it is probable that it is at least partly due to the increase in the number of pure-bred stock.

Pure-bred cattle have been raised in this county for the last thirty years, but lately the number of herds have been greatly increased. It is estimated that there are some forty different farmers engaged in the raising of pure-bred cattle. These are pretty well scattered over the county, but there are more of them about Eskridge than any other locality.

The hog and poultry business is also engaged in very extensively. Nearly every farmer keeps from two to five hundred hens. There are several breeders who make a specialty of pure-bred poultry.

In the last few years a great deal of attention is being paid to raising pure-bred hogs. Most of the breeders have a good home market for their animals, as the people of Wabaunsee County are finding that it pays better to raise improved stock than grade stock for the market. The raising of good animals is a matter of education and this county is pretty well advanced along this line.

The progressive State of Kansas, with her acres of waving yellow wheat, the large acreage of corn, to say nothing of the vast expanse of fine pastures, has many things of which she may well be proud.

Prominent among these is the live-stock industry in which she stands well up in the list as compared with other States. She may justly feel proud of the large live-stock market which she has been so big a factor in building. This market, located on the Eastern border, is also proud of the State which has been the largest contributor thereto.

Located at this market is a commission firm whose growth has been commensurate with the growth of that market, and also the State of Kansas, and stands today as one of the largest firms doing business at the Kansas City Stock Yards—The J. P. Peters Commission Company—whose advertisement appears elsewhere in this issue, and to whom we would suggest writing if you have any stock on hand or wish to purchase. At the head of this firm is our old-time friend, Jim Peters, for many years a citizen of Wabaunsee County, who is ably assisted by a large and efficient corps of salesmen and buyers. His pens are the choicest in the Yards, being in the immediate vicinity of five different scales; direct chutes and viaducts to his pens from the loading tracks, and well-divided and sufficient pen-room, all of which are large factors in the proper handling of live stock to secure good fills, quick sales, and immediate weigh-ups. These various important features add many dollars to the bank accounts of the patrons of this company.

The Kansas Breeders' Directory for 1907, issued by the Kansas Improved Stock Breeders' Association, shows the following list of fine-stock breeders in Wabaunsee County, who are members of the State Association:

Herman Arndt, Templin, Poland-Chinas.

T. P. Babst & Sons, Dover, Shorthorns.

J. M. Beach, Maple Hill, Route No. 1, Holsteins.

R. M. Buck, Eskridge, Shorthorns, Poland-Chinas, Poultry.

Scott R. Buck, Eskridge, Shorthorns.

A. M. Jordan, Alma, Poland-Chinas, Poultry.

C. S. Kelley, Paxico, Poland-Chinas.

E. L. Knapp, Maple Hill, Shorthorns.

C. G. Nash, Eskridge, Berkshires, Poultry.

Andrew Pringle, Eskridge, Shorthorns, Poland-Chinas.

A. and P. Schmitz, Alma, Poland-Chinas.

H. W. Steinmeyer, Volland, Duroc-Jerseys.

E. W. Thoes, Alma, Duroc-Jerseys.

Wm. J. Todd, Maple Hill, Feeder.

Seb. Wertsberger, Volland, Herefords.

K. C. Berry, Eskridge, Percherons, Shorthorns, Berkshires.

W. G. Martin, Eskridge, Shorthorns, Berkshires.

T. P. BABST.

Mr. T. P. Babst, who lives on Walnut Grove, near Dover, has been a breeder for thirty years. His specialty is Shorthorn cattle, and he has raised some of the finest animals in the United States. He sells all his stock himself and never puts it on show, but the stock has never failed to draw prizes wherever shown by the buyers. The choicest animals on the State Agricultural College farm are from the Babst herd; also nearly all of the Tomson and Son's show animals. Mr. Babst at present keeps a herd of about one hundred and twenty-five cattle. He has the oldest Shorthorn establishment in the State.

J. P. PETERS COMMISSION COMPANY

Kansas City Stock Yards Kansas City, Mo.

A Square
Deal.

Strictly Commission
Merchants.



Composed of experienced, successful and practical stockmen. Have best located pens and plenty of them. Prompt service in receiving and handling of stock and proceeds. Best information service.

Test Our Work by a Trial Consignment.

Alma.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Abstracters, Real Estate and Loans.

W. G. Weaver.
R. J. Kerans.

Banks.

The Alma National Bank.
The Bank of Alma.

Barber-Shops.

West Side Barber-Shop.
A. A. Johnson.

Blacksmiths.

Wilson & Noller.
E. T. Linss.
Frank Metzger.

Books and Music Store.

L. Palenske.

Boots and Shoes.

Adolph Zeckser.

Cattle and Pasture Office.

A. S. Allendorf.

Cigar Manufactory.

C. H. Cozine.

Clothing.

E. L. Knostman Clothing Co.

Dentist.

Dr. C. Glunz.

Druggists.

A. A. Meyer.
Brown Drug Co.

Dry Goods.

Carl Lang.

Electric Light.

Alma Light and Power Co.

Furniture and Wall Paper.

E. T. Diestelhorst.

Furniture and Undertaking.

Thoes & Schieber.

General Merchandise.

Meyer Bros.
Pries Store.

Groceries.

J. B. Cassidy.

Hardware.

Fred Lutz.
Conrad Mueller.
F. C. Simon.
Alf Umbehr.

Harness and Saddles.

Geo. Sutherland.

Horseshoers.

R. N. Gaugh.

Hotels.

The Brand Hotel.
The Commercial Hotel.

Jewelry.

J. H. Newell.

Laundry.

The Alma Laundry.

Lawyers.

J. T. Keagy.
C. E. Carrol.
Wm. Bowes.
Jno. W. Wilson.

Livery Stables.

Degenhardt & Kraus.
Albert Copp.
August Uttermann.

Lumber Yards.

Oetinger Lumber Co.
Eck's Lumber Yard.

Marble Works.

Alma Marble Works.

Meat Market.

L. Undorf.
Grunewald & O'Neill.

Millinery.

Mrs. Frank Grunewald.
Anna B. Dwyer.

Mills.

Mid-Kansas Milling Co.

Newspapers.

The Alma Signal.
The Alma Enterprise.

Photographers.

G. H. Meier.

Physicians and Surgeons.

Dr. C. H. Mielke.
Dr. G. W. B. Beaverly.

Produce Dealers.

Freeman & Rose.

Real Estate Dealers.

J. B. Fields.
W. G. Weaver.

Repair Shop.

C. Schubert.

Restaurants.

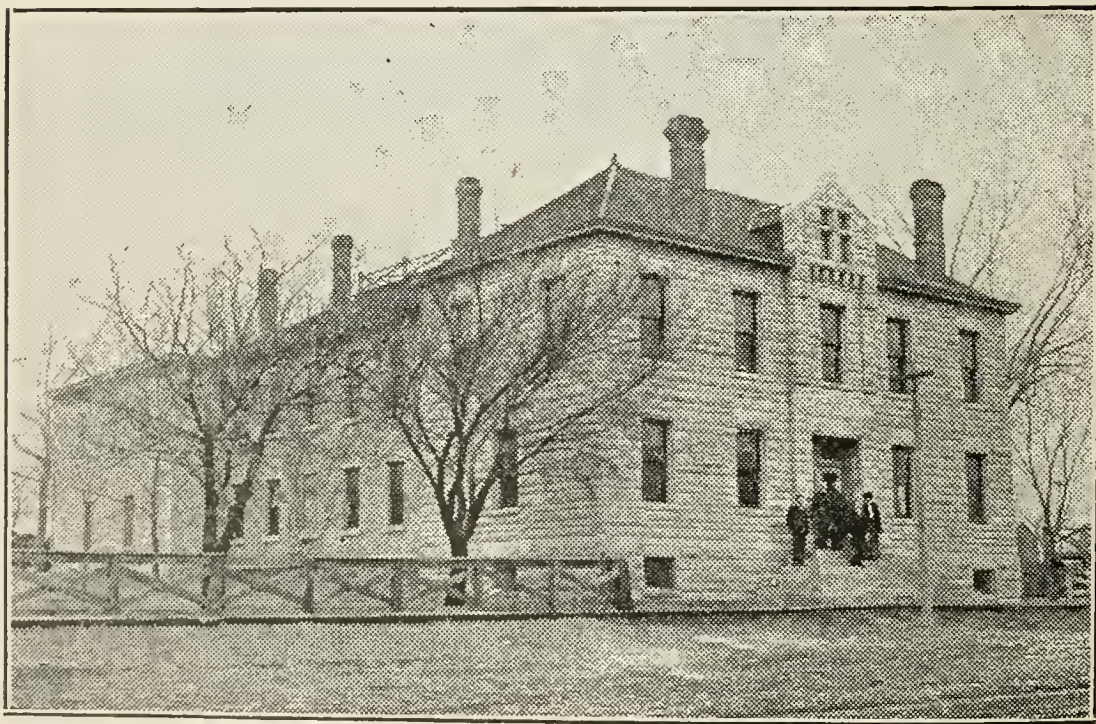
L. W. Schroeder.
J. E. Kitterman.

Alma, the "Shire Town," and most important point in Wabaunsee County, is located on Mill Creek. Most writers would say located at the junctions of the Rock Island and Santa Fe, but as Alma was here before the railroads, we claim that she is located on Mill Creek. With Hendricks branching from Mill Creek on the north and the Illinois on the south, the country

about Alma is inclined to be hilly. The town nestling down among the green hills might admit of extensive description if we were disposed to write it all out. We simply borrow an expression from the Bible and say, "a city beautiful for situation" and pass on.

Alma is located about the center of the county and the only town of any size between Topeka and Herington. It is thus the hub of a large and prosperous territory. Its location in relation to large towns is thirty-six miles west of Topeka, twenty-two miles east of Manhattan and thirty-four miles northwest of Burlingame.

The question of how Alma came to be named is a mooted one. Most of the early settlers held an opinion of their own on the subject. Since it is a subject of which the writer knows absolutely nothing, we will give the different views pertaining to



Wabaunsee County Court House.

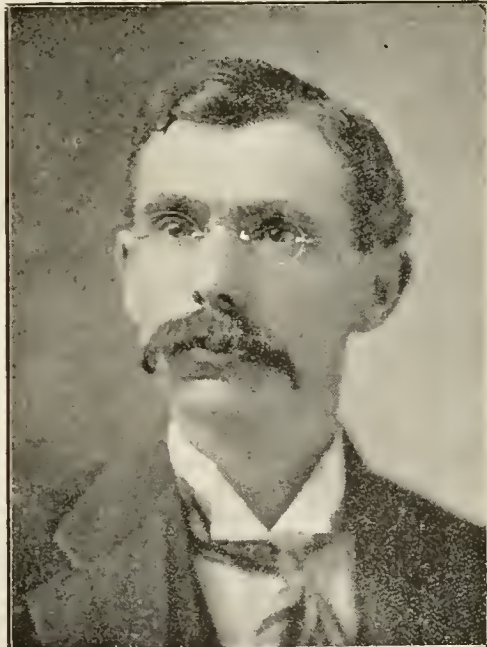
the name and let each reader settle it for himself. The settlement seems to have been called Alma in the '50s and so must have been named by some early settler. John Winkler, an early settler, says that the name was first applied to the postoffice kept by John Spiecker on a high point on his farm south of town, now referred to as lookout station. The Switzers, several families of whom lived in the vicinity, called this place "The Alma," meaning in Swizz a high open place, frequented by herdsmen and by lovers. Mr. Winkler says that Henry Schmitz is responsible for the name being given to the city.

Phil F. Johnson credits Gottlieb Zwanziger with naming the place Alma, because he came from a place named Alma in the old country, also because the word in English signified a German Settlement.

Slightly akin to this last view is the one held by A. F. Thayer of Maple Hill, who suggests that the name came from the River Alma, on which a bloody battle was fought in 1854, his theory is that some of the soldiers of that battle found their way to this locality and named the town to commemorate the

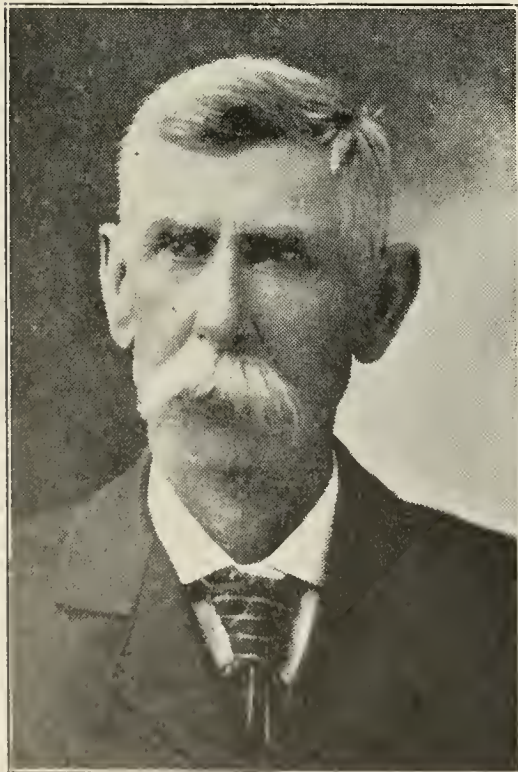
Commissioner B. BUCHLI.

Mr. Buchli was born in Switzerland. He came to Wabaunsee County in 1876, was County Clerk from 1898 to 1903. Mr. Buchli lives on his farm near Sunbeam and is one of the stock-raisers of this county. At the present time he is County Commissioner.



victory over the Russians. Personally we favor Mr. Winkler's account of the naming. However it came by it, Alma has a beautiful and appropriate name of good old Latin derivation.

As near as can be learned, the first white men to settle at Alma were Mr. Joseph Thoes and his brother, which was in the year of 1855. There was at that time to Mr. Thoes' knowledge five claims taken in the county. This was in January. In May of the same year a large company of the Germans arrived at Kansas City on their way west. A company had been formed in Cincinnati and this was the first division of the colony. They had been told at St. Louis that they could go to Kansas City and take the boat up the Kaw River. They were very much disappointed in not being able to do this and were about to disband when discovered by Joseph Thoes, who happened to be in Kansas City to get supplies. He at once gave



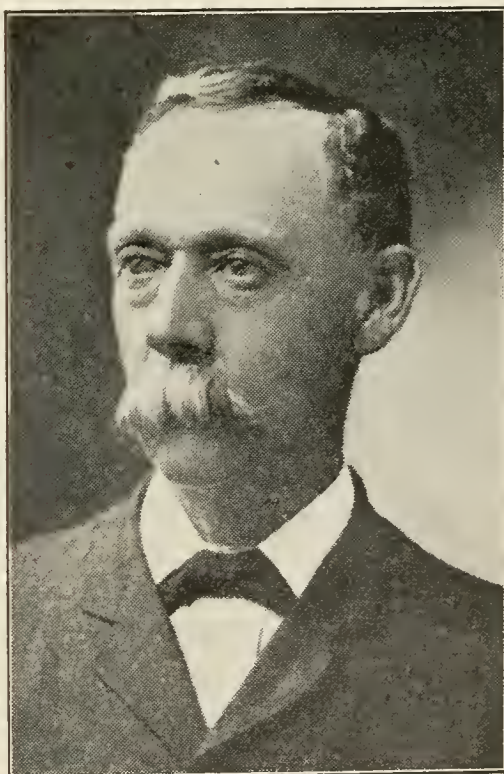
Commissioner W. K. BEACH.

Mr. Beach is an "Old Timer." He located at Keene in 1856. Wouldn't tell us anything about himself, hated awfully to have this picture taken. He doesn't seem to believe in making "Graven images."

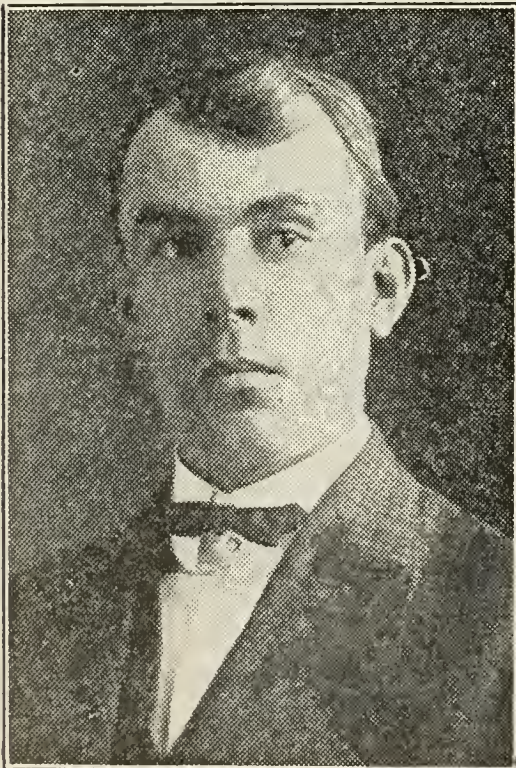
up the idea of buying supplies on that trip, procured three ox teams in Westport and brought the whole colony out, bag and baggage. Mr. Metzger and Frank Schmidt each drove one of the teams. Mr. Thoes places the number of these people at about thirty, while other accounts say there were seventy, mostly young men, and that Ernest Honeke was their leader. It is hardly possible that two companies came in this year. The account which places the number at seventy says that those who came first laid out the grounds and prepared for the reception of those to follow, so it is possible that there were seventy in all, but only thirty in the first division. In a short time all the land within six or eight miles of Alma had been taken. The other division came on. The first comers, who had expected to sell out their claims to the later arrivals at a good figure, were disappointed. So the bubble burst and two-thirds

Commissioner J. J. MAILS.

The writer has lost the notes on this man, but sees by the memorandum that he is the only man from Wabaunsee who "signed up."



of the settlers left. The town company went out of business. In 1857 the settlement was reinforced by a large colony direct from Germany. They formed a town company in St. Louis, chose Alma as a location and settled here. They also forfeited the right to the Townsite and it was pre-empted by Gottlieb Zwanziger, who had come in 1856. In 1858 improvements were made. Two mills were erected on Mill Creek, but high water washed them away the same year they were erected. This was the great flood year all over Wabaunsee County, but it was especially destructive on Mill Creek, which during the high water was half a mile wide and from ten to twenty feet in depth. Settlers were driven from their homes and much property was destroyed. Only one life was lost, that of Mr. Moettcher, who was drowned while attempting to rescue Fred Steinmeyer and wife from their housetop. But worse than the flood of '59 was the drouth of '60, when all Kansas seemed for



Oscar Schmitz

County Attorney

Mr. Schmitz was born at Alma, December 26, 1875. He is a graduate of Dickinson County High School at Chapman, Kansas, and of the law course of the Kansas State University.

He is serving his second term as County Attorney.

a year and a half to be reverting into a desert. In 1861 the war broke out and not much progress was made while the men were at the front. When peace was established and affairs were running smoothly again, Alma was organized into a town. A meeting was held in '66 to determine the location. There was strong rivalry between this place and the location out on Peter Thoes farm. Through the efforts of Henry Schmitz and Gottlieb Zwanziger, this place won when the vote was taken. The same year a petition was signed by Rudolph Arndt and one hundred and thirty-two others were presented at the January session of the County Commissioners for the permanent location of the County seat and Alma won out by twelve votes at the February election. Owing to the legality of the vote being questioned, the matter was deferred to the next year. S. H. Fairfield tells of the election in 1867 and of the moving of the county seat.

C. C. Stotler

County Clerk

Mr. Stotler was one of the men who knew it was no use to try and get away when we came after him for a contract to support this book.



"One beautiful spring day in 1867 a German was wandering among the hills of Mill Creek. He came upon the high bluff east of where the City of Alma now is. When he looked over the beautiful landscape spread out before him with wooded streams flowing into the valley from the north, south, and west, and the valley itself clothed in the verdure of spring, he thought he had never seen anything so lovely. As he gazed upon the picturesque scene before him it held him spellbound and he said, There in the valley is the place for the capital of Wabaunsee County and there it shall be. Wabaunsee on the banks of the Kaw, was the county seat and had been since the organization of the county. The young German who had declared that the capital of Wabaunsee County should be on Mill Creek, stirred up the settlers of the valley and they became enthusiastic like himself. He then made an alliance with the settlements south. Wabaunsee heard the mutterings and threatenings of the com-



Frank Schmidt

Sheriff.

Mr. Schmidt served as Under Sheriff when Fred Frey was in office. He was the first officer to sign up for ten of these books, thereby getting the rest of the Court House crowd into trouble.

ing struggle to wrest the County Seat from her and braced herself for the conflict. She said that the people of the county never would vote to remove the County Seat from the Kaw Valley and locate it over among the hills of Mill Creek. The election came off and the Dutch got away with the Yankees. The capital was located on a forty acres of a bare prairie covered with blue stem grass nearly as high as a man's head and just where the young German said the future capital of the county should be. The name of the County Seat was called Alma—after the name of a territory that now composes the townships of Washington, Garfield, Farmer, Mill Creek and Alma. The Alma post-office, for the whole territory, was located near what was called "Devil's Lookout," in Farmer Township, a one and one-half story frame building was erected for a court house, the room upstairs to be used for a court room and public gatherings. The front room below was used for a general store.

L. B. Burt,

County Surveyor.

Mr. Burt is the County Surveyor, also Instructor in the Alma High Schools. He lives at Wabaunsee, but is not a historic character, except for the history he made in hiding out to avoid being put in this book.



and one of the rear rooms was used for a bed room for the employes of the store. The other rooms, fourteen by twenty feet, was reserved for the county officers. A small two-room house used for a boarding house just south of the court house, and a blacksmith shop, were the only buildings of the new capital of Wabaunsee County. One cold day the last of December, 1867, were seen two wagons coming over the hills from the north from Wabaunsee. In one wagon was a small safe, which held all the cash and valuable books that the county possessed. The other wagons carried the County Clerk and Treasurer and some miscellaneous papers and books. These composed all the property of Wabaunsee County, save a few books belonging to



School House at Alma.

the Probate Judge's office. The wagons were driven to the rear of the court house, the Clerk and the Treasurer took possession of the fourteen by twenty room assigned them. The small safe and the balance of the county's property were deposited in these small quarters, which were to be for the use of all the county officers. We took supper with Father Dirker and his good wife in their two-room hotel. At night we spread our blankets on the floor of the office and slept the sleep of the innocent. The inhabitants of the little city soon became restless and wanted more liberty than the fathers of the country were willing to grant them, and they applied to the authorities to be made a city of the third class, and it was granted them. But this was not the end. The obtaining of the County Seat is an important thing and the other towns were not willing to let Alma have it without a dissenting voice. Every town then on the Wabaunsee County map entered the race. There was Dragoon, Wilmington, Zeandale, Maple Hill, Thoes Place, Newbury, and Eskridge. Some of these were the merest infants whose first cry was for

F. M. Patterson

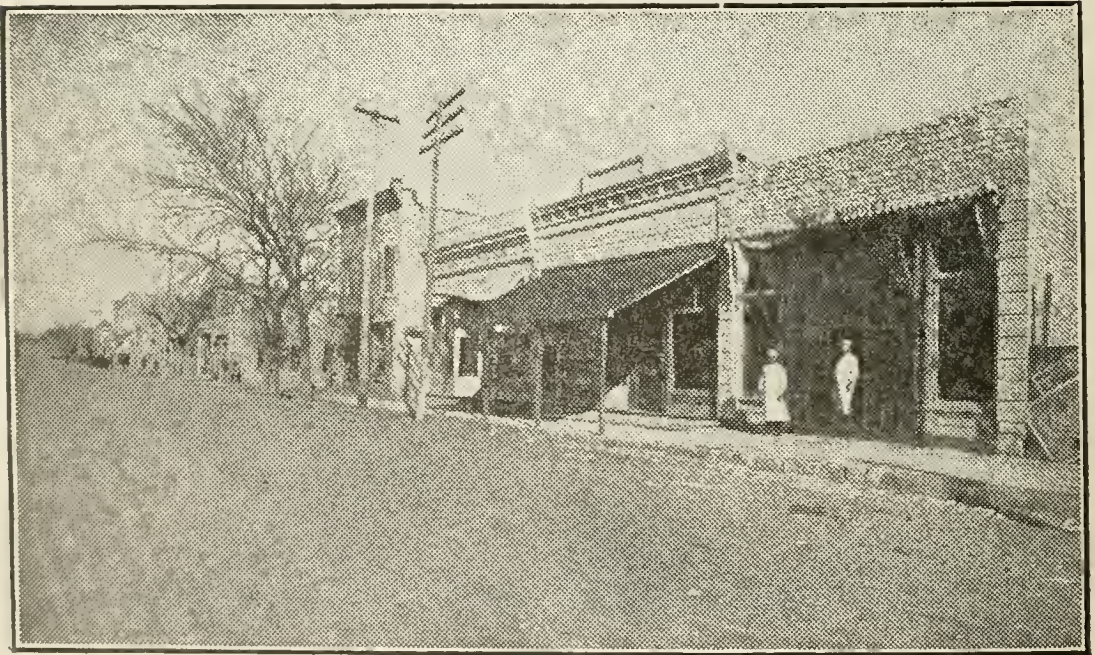
Superintendent

Mr. Patterson is Superintendent of Alma Public Schools. He hasn't missed a year from the school-room since he was a child. His ability, together with his forty-five years of experience makes him a valuable man in his profession.



the County Seat. Gradually they all fell by the wayside until the final pull was between Alma and Eskridge. In 1871 Alma received a majority of the votes cast, for the third time and was declared the County Seat. In 1872 Alma, according to an agreement, built an \$8,000 court house, which she turned over to the county. In 1869 there were four buildings in Alma, Schmitz & Meyer's store, Winkler's Hotel, Dierker's boarding house, and the court house." As the records speak of no other buildings, we infer that it was fashionable in Alma in those days to live in hotels and boarding houses. August 11th, of that year, the Alma debating society was formed with Henry Schmitz as President and N. H. Whittemore as Secretary, to decide serious public problems such as "Should Alma have a daily mail?" "What is the age of Ann?" etc.

In 1870 a new colony from Pittsburg, Pa., located at Alma. Among the trials and tribulations of early Alma were the prairie fires, which were often disastrous. One particularly



Looking north from Eugene Schmitz, on Street of Alma.

destructive fire occurred in 1875. Smallpox swept the settlement in '71. It first broke out in Templin in the family of Mr. Carl Falk. The germ had been brought on the clothing of Mr. Herman Fink, who came over from Germany on an infected ship. Nearly every family in Templin, Alma, and East Branch were down with it. A number of deaths occurred at each point, among those dying at Alma was N. H. Whittemore, County Attorney.

We here quote another historical incident from Mr. Fairfield: "One little incident, however, I must relate which brought Alma into the public eye and put new life into the town and eventually caused her to put on city airs. Large stone buildings were erected and other improvements were made, and for the first time in her history her streets were sidewalked. The awakening of the little city from lethargy was on this wise: A well was being dug at the lower end of Missouri street. The workmen were promised a treat when they struck water. A



Looking south from Hochkaus corner on Street of Alma.

strong vein was soon reached. The men left and went for the promised treat of beer. There was a kerosene barrel standing near the well with a little oil in it. A lady thought she would play a joke on the men while they were away enjoying the beer, so she emptied the few gallons of kerosene from the barrel into the well. When the men came back they smelled the kerosene and they were sure they had struck oil. They drew up a bucket and the top was covered with oil. The city paper announced that a vein of oil had been tapped in a well and that a stream poured out as large as a man's leg. The town went wild over the prospect. A company was formed, stock issued and hundreds of shares sold. The officers at Fort Riley took forty or more shares. Alma was in the 'lime light,' a noted naturalist from St. Louis came to the city and country around was thoroughly inspected to find the source of the wonderful vein. 'There were some spiritualists in the city and they held a seance, and the medium was told by the spirits that there was a pocket of anthracite coal under the city and surrounding country. A map was made under the directions of the spirits, showing just where the vein of coal lay. The spirits were often consulted as to how the rich deposit could be brought to the surface. The lady who perpetrated the joke by pouring the kerosene into the well became alarmed at the excitement she had stirred up and kept the joke a secret, and only told it to her husband.' The effect of this little joke, over a quarter of a century ago, is felt by the city of Alma today, and will be for many years to come. The joke of priming the well with kerosene proved a costly one. The prospecting company boring for oil in the north part of town struck a salt vein at a depth of 600 feet, and proceeded to manufacture salt by evaporation. It was the grasshopper year and the vats became so thick with them that the salt was worthless. The company then tried boilers and turned out sixteen barrels per day; the water was 65 per cent salt. A Hutchinson company purchased the company's drill and struck the real thing. The Alma company went out of business. About this time the spirits got in their work through their medium. They induced a man to bore 2,000 feet into the earth to reach the pocket of coal. The drill passed through twelve veins of coal, which varied in thickness. The man then put down a shaft 600 feet, his money gave out and a halt was

called. There was also a St. Louis company which tried for coal at Alma, and it is believed by Mr. Fairfield, who was very active in this matter, that if the matter had been properly worked it would have had fine results. Mr. Fairfield is the party who secured the land options which were used by this company.

The Salt Works of which Mr. Fairfield speaks, once supplied salt to a great part of Kansas, and might have been doing it yet if they hadn't allowed Hutchinson to get their drill. The salt works at Alma shut down in 1876. Alma has another prospect for manufactories besides salt. There is the cement business. Alma was the first town in the United States to furnish Portland cement, which has since become one of the greatest enterprises in the whole country, and especially in Kansas.

The growth along the educational line is shown by the building of a high school building in 1875. The first newspaper was established at Alma in 1869. The oldest newspaper in the country is the Alma Enterprise, established in 1884. In 1886 a newspaper gives an account of a meeting of the horticultural society which was holding regular meetings at that time. Fruit was no longer regarded a luxury, but a necessity.

Returning to Alma's natural resources, a word should be said regarding the natural rock. It has been quarried for building purposes and makes excellent material. The Rock Island bridge at Topeka was built from Alma stone.

Alma has made many improvements the last two years, among them is The Hochhans Block, the new Meyer Building, Oetinger Lumber Yards, the \$15,000 High School Building, the Lutheran Church, which cost a like sum, and L. Undorf's new market. Besides these, many new residences have been erected. Every business place in Alma is occupied, and it is almost impossible to rent a house. The walks on Missouri Street are cement and new cement walks are being laid on the back streets.

Alma is the only town in the county that can put on enough metropolitan airs to have an automobile parade every evening. From the standpoint of appearance, it is one of the most pleasing towns in Kansas. It is well kept and neat. Missouri street is kept in good repair and lined with nice looking business blocks

of native stone. There is an uniformity and grace about the town which is good to see. As well as being progressive and enterprising, the people of Alma are so friendly and pleasant to meet that a stranger at once feels at home among them.

Mr. J. B. Cassidy, who keeps the dandy grocery store in the middle of the block, holds the enviable distinction of being the only Irishman in town. The claims of the real-estate man who seeks to deprive Mr. Cassidy of half this honor are not taken seriously by the grocer.

Mr. Cassidy is one of the early settlers of Alma, having come before the railroad. By hard work and thrift he has accumulated considerable means. He is now serving his second term as Mayor of Alma. The fact that the Deutschers have twice united to elect the only Irishman in the town to the highest office in the gift of its citizens proves that "there is nothing too good for the Irish."

August Falk, proprietor of the Alma Marble Works, operates the only establishment in his line in Alma.

He has been in business for thirty years, and his work has won more than a local reputation. Mr. Falk has a large monument trade at Herrington, where he spends a part of his time. He does fine work in native rock as well as in marble. He also takes contracts for cement work, and most of the cement walks in Alma are of his building.

Mr. Falk was born in Groszerlang, Brandenburg, Germany, in 1849, and came to Wabaunsee County in 1870. He has always lived at Alma.

The firm who is said to be paying money to more people than any other firm in Alma is Freeman & Rose, who are engaged in the poultry and egg-buying business. They started last December and since that time have done a cash business, averaging \$1,000.00 per month. Owing to the increase in trade, it is already necessary to enlarge their plant so as to accommodate a steadily increasing volume of business.



C. E. Carroll

Carey E. Carroll, one of the prominent younger citizens of Alma, was born at Maplewood, Ohio, September 15th, 1868. He was appointed Court Reporter of the Thirty-first Judicial District of Kansas, under Judge Wm. Thomson, where he remained eight years. During this time he read law and was admitted to the bar in 1895. In November, 1896, he was elected County Attorney of Wabaunsee County.

Between 1898 and 1907 Mr. Carroll served several terms as reporter in the Appellate and Supreme Court at Topeka. For two years he was U. S. Marshal

at Wichita. He has been a newspaper man of considerable merit and until recently was interested in several papers.

Mr. Carroll is an extensive property owner in Alma, an active member of the Board of Education and of the City Council.

The Electric Light Company was organized in the fall of 1905 and the plant established. On December 21st everything was in readiness and the lights were officially turned on by Mayor Cassidy. The equipment was a fifty-horsepower simple automatic engine, a fifty-horsepower boiler and a fifty-kilowatt altimeter.

In October, 1906, Mr. W. B. Wilson bought out the other members of the company and took over the business. At that time the number of subscribers did not reach forty. In June, 1907, there were sixty-three subscribers.

The business is now growing beyond expectation, and Mr. Wilson will be obliged to rebuild at once. New machinery of greater capacity will be installed.



H. C. Stitcher

H. C. Stitcher, editor of the *Alma Signal*, is one of the enterprising young men on which the future depends. He has been in Alma only two years, but has demonstrated clearly his ability as a newspaper man. He has lately been joined in his business by his brother, C. H. Stitcher.

S. H. FAIRFIELD.

S. H. Fairfield is one of the men who have been identified with the history-making of Wabaunsee County since he came to Kansas in 1856. He took part in the Civil War and Border Wars, serving in Company K of the Eleventh Kansas with honor and distinction. He has held many offices with credit, among them Postmaster in charge of the military mail for Missouri, Kansas, and Colorado in 1863; he was doorkeeper of the Senate and High Courts of Impeachment of Kansas in 1861-2, County Clerk in 1856, County Treasurer from 1867-81, Register of Deeds for several years. For two years he was editor and proprietor of the *Alma Union* and Trustee of Washburn College twenty-five years. The writer acknowledges a debt to him in compiling historical facts for this book.



W. G. Weaver

Mr. W. G. Weaver, who is of New England birth, came to Wabaunsee with his parents in 1868, before pioneer days were over. This was his place of residence until 1895, when he was elected Clerk of the District Court and moved to Alma. At the close of his four years' official term, Mr. Weaver went into the real estate and abstract business. His residence of thirty-eight years in the county renders him particularly competent in both these lines of business—in the real estate business, be-

cause he knows every piece of land in the county and is able to meet the individual wants and needs of his customers; in the abstract business, because he knows the history of every piece of land. The four years spent as Clerk of the District Court also gives him valuable knowledge on this point. Mr. Weaver has the only established abstract business in the county. He also handles a loan and insurance business.

The Alma Enterprise, Sage & Little, editors and owners, is the oldest paper now in the county, being established in 1884, and since absorbing the *News*, established in 1868, and the *Altavista Record*. It has a list of 1,600 subscribers, by far the largest in the county. It put in the first power press, also the first gas engine in the country and was first to own its own home. Frank I. Sage, the senior partner, is a printer of thirty-five years' experience, and the fame of his excellent work is known over several adjacent counties. O. W. Little, the junior member, is a native born son of the county, and for nearly four years was Deputy County Clerk. He was largely instrumental in establishing the Wabaunsee County Historical Society, the first county society in the State, and is its present secretary.

The Enterprise is Republican in politics and has always stood for what was best in the growth and upbuilding of the city and county.



A. & P. Schmitz, Poland-Chinas

Among the prominent breeders of Wabaunsee County are Arthur and Paul Schmitz, who are of Alma. They have been raising Poland-China hogs for the past four years. They have a herd of about one hundred and forty pigs. The young pigs are sold each year to farmers and stockmen for breeding purposes. They will have about eighty for sale this year.

The Schmitz Brothers are also getting a start in registered Hereford cattle. They have about a dozen head as a beginning and intend to increase their herd.

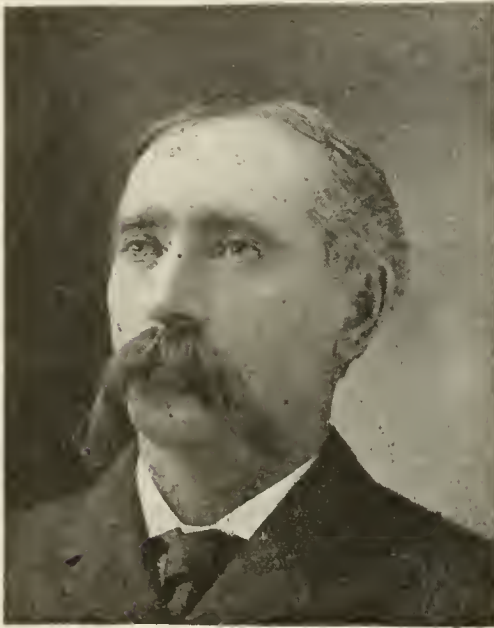


OETINGER LUMBER CO.

Among the new men who have come to Alma and established a business, of which the little city is proud, is Wm. Oetinger, President and Treasurer of the Oetinger Lumber Co. The Oetinger Lumber Co. owns yards at Harveyville and Alma. The yards were established April 15th, 1906. The above is a cut of the buildings put up at that time. The Harveyville yard was bought of the Harveyville Lumber Co. in 1906. These two yards are about equal in capacity, and a large business, running up to about \$30,000, is transacted at each point.

All kinds of building material, including lumber, rough and dressed, shingles, lath, posts, lime and cement are dealt in. Coal and brick are also handled at the Alma yards. The different kinds of lumber handled are the yellow or Southern pine, the white pine, and redwood from California, fir from Oregon, cedar from Washington, cypress from Louisiana, and oak from Missouri. Mr. Oetinger is an experienced lumberman. He came to Alma from Riley, where he had been in the lumber business for fifteen years. He has energy and enterprise, and is doing his share to promote the interests of his city and county.

The Oetinger Lumber Co. is incorporated under the laws of the State of Kansas, and its officers are Wm. Oetinger, President and Treasurer; W. G. Means, Vice-President; J. E. Edgerton, Secretary.



J. B. Fields

One man who has a system for keeping the boys on the farm, which beats all the "sage advice" ever printed, is Mr. J. B. Fields, real estate dealer in Alma. Mr. Fields realizes that one way to increase the demand for real estate is to make farmers. To this end he manages various contests — one of these the corn contest. Mr. Fields furnishes seed-corn to all boys of Wabaunsee County who care to go into the contest. Some of this corn of the new varieties costing \$1.00 for three quarts.

Twenty prizes will be given to the boys raising the best corn. The prizes are given by the business men of the county and are of an educational nature, such as a trip to Manhattan to inspect the live-stock and farming methods. The object is to teach the boys the very best kind of farming. Mr. Fields has been in Alma in the real estate business since 1892. He is an extensive real estate owner himself and pastures 1,800 head of cattle. He was the first Shawnee Insurance agent in Wabaunsee County, and is still in the insurance business.

Alma has three banks, the oldest of these The Alma National. It has a capital of \$50,000, a surplus of \$20,000 and is especially well backed by the following substantial directors: Fred Reuter, President, is a retired farmer, but still retains about 1,500 acres of choice real estate, besides his homestead. Mr. J. L. Shepp owns 4,000 acres of land in Farmer Township and in Lyons County. C. G. Willig, of Pavilion, who is considered one of the wealthiest men of the county, owns a large area of valuable land. Mr. C. Thomson owns town real estate and a general store. Geo. Huber, manufacturer of hand-made boots and shoes. Mr. J. C. Goetzbach owns one of the largest stores in the county, also a fine farm. Philip F. Johnson, an old settler and retired farmer, has considerable money in property and stocks. Mr. J. R. Henderson is the cashier of the bank.



Dr. George W. B. Beverly

U. S. Pension Examiner.

County Health Officer.

Coroner for the past two years.

Offices fitted with latest equipment, including X-Ray Machine.

Has an extensive practise over the entire county.



Mr. R. M. Buck, of near Eskridge, is one of the stock-raisers of great enterprise. He is making Poland-China hogs a specialty and his herd of one hundred head contains some very valuable animals, including some prize-winners.

Mr. Buck has a herd of fifty Shorthorn cattle, one of which was a prize-winner at the Kansas City Royal Stock Show.

Mr. Buck is also a breeder of Barred Plymouth Rock Chickens.

Knostman Clothing Co.



MEN'S
Ready-Made
Clothing and
Furnishings

Shoe Emporium
Latest Styles in all
Goods.

G. H. Meier.

Photographer.

Mr. Meier is a Portrait and View Photographer permanently located at Alma, with branch galleries at Alta Vista and Paxico. He can be found—

First Saturday of each month at Alta Vista.

Third Saturday of each month at Paxico.

Pictures copied and enlarged in India Ink, Crayon, Water Color and Pastel.



Altavista.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Banks.

Altavista State Bank.
Peoples State Bank.

Barbers.

City Barber Shop.
Fred Kruger.

Carpenters and Contractors.

Syring Bros.

Dentists.

Dr. F. C. Gale.

Furniture Store.

Otto Wolgast.

General Stores.

Alexander & Son.
J. N. Bolton.
Gantz Bros.
W. F. Kahle.
Star Mercantile Co.

Hardware and Machinery.

A. H. Wolgast.

Hotels.

Fairview Hotel.
Farmers Hotel.

Jewelry and Notions.

Chris Johnson.

Lumber Yards.

The Wohlgast Lumber Co.

Meat Market.

Union Thomas.

Millinery.

Doull Millinery Co.
Mrs. Dollie Houghton.

Music Store.

Olney Music Co.

Newspapers.

Altavista State Journal.

Notary Public.

P. Hawes.

Physicians and Surgeon.

Dr. W. H. Little.

Produce Dealer.

Joe Hampton.

Real Estate Dealer.

A. H. Meseke.

Restaurants.

City Restaurant.
L. E. Paetke.

Altavista is a very active, enterprising town of almost five hundred people, on the Main line of the Rock Island. It is situated in the southwest corner of Wabaunsee County, just at the junction of three counties, and draws a large amount of trade from each, there being no other town of importance between Alma and Herington. Besides the town trade, Altavista has a steady trade of about 560 country families. To the South and West is a vast area of level farming lands. The increasing prosperity of the farmers has caused the population and business of Altavista to double within the last four years. The town is booming, but the boom has the firm reliable backing of a rapidly developing farming community to sustain it.

EARLY HISTORY OF ALTAVISTA.

The earliest account obtainable concerning Altavista is the establishment of the town in 1886. The surrounding territory must have been settled many years before, but no account of it was ever learned.

Matt Thompson says that Pike was laid out in October, 1886, by W. D. Deans; that shortly after the name was changed to Cable City, and in March, 1887, changed again to Altavista. In an old 1887 map, the name appears as Cable City. The account obtained from citizens of Altavista is to the effect that the town was laid out by C. Langvart, who sold lots enough to start in the stock business and thus become wealthy. P. Hawes had previously homesteaded a piece of land which is now the part of the townsite, from the depot south. Geo. Wolff had homesteaded what is now north part of town.

The town was laid out in 1886 and building began in the winter of '89.

A party by the name of Messenber built the first building. Steve Hoog, Gantz Brothers, and Sattell were some of the first people to build and start in business. Mr. Kahle, who has a general store at the present time, did the carpenter work on many of the early buildings. L. J. Woodward, Richardson & Fisher, and the firm of Kistler and Arndt are also among the

pioneer business men of Alavista. M. L. Hull was the pioneer lumberman. He was bought out a few years ago by Wm. Wolgast.

There is an old landmark not far from Altavista, in the shape of a stone fort, built on the farm of August Wolgast in 1864 in anticipation of a raid from the Kaw reservation. Sixty-four was a very anxious time on the border. The Kiowas and Cheyennes were on the warpath and the restlessness of the Kaws caused much apprehension among the whites. In the same year the settlers of Harveyville "hid out" in the corn-fields for fear of an Indian outbreak. However, the Kaws stayed at home and the strong stone fort was not needed. It is quite a curiosity today.

There is an old proverb, "Happy is the nation that has no history." Applying that to the towns in Wabaunsee County, Altavista is a happy place indeed, for we were able to gather very little, except that the little town has always been prosperous. There was no stories of hard times, as was heard from the earlier settled places. This may be because the town did not appear on the map until after the "big drowth" and the two grasshopper years were over. There is a tradition that Altavista was struck by a cyclone about two years ago. If it was, the town certainly does not look it now. It is all together again and steaming away at a rate that looks like business. There are no vacant store rooms or dwellings to be found. Neither are there any idle men. The railroad rock crusher gives steady employment to a large number of hands.

Cream is an important product, and the weekly shipment averages one thousand pounds a week.

Corn is the principal grain, although all grains are raised to some extent. Hogs and cattle are raised in large herds. There are five men near Altavista engaged in breeding registered stock. Cattle feeding on the hills north and east is quite extensive. This is one of the principal points in the county where Texas cattle are unloaded for pasturage. This territory is well watered and especially adopted for stock-raising.

As its name indicates, Altavista is built on a high location. From a hill a short distance away Alma and other distant points can be seen very distinctly.



—THE—
Altavista State Bank

Altavista, Kans.

Capital and Surplus,
 \$15,000.00.

Resources of Stockhold-
 ers, over \$200,000.

DIRECTORS.

A. H. MESEKE,
President.

OTTO WOLGAST,
Vice-President.

W. C. A. MESEKE,
Cashier.

HERMAN ARNDT,
 A. H. WOLGAST.

J. N. Bolton

Altavista, Kans

Dry Goods, Ladies' and
 Gents' Furnishings.

"Black Cat" Hosiery.

Shoes for Men and
 Boys, "Julia Mar-
 lowe" for Women.

Staple and Fancy
 Groceries.





THE PEOPLE'S STATE BANK, ALTAVISTA, KANSAS.

This bank owns its own building, as shown in cut, and is absolutely protected against fire, etc. As the name indicates, this bank was created "*by the people for the people.*" The stockholders consist of the best and most wealthy people in the community, aggregating a value of over one-fourth million dollars, thus making it one of the most safe and substantial institutions. When in our city make this your headquarters; we will treat you honorably as well as honestly. We respectfully solicit your patronage.

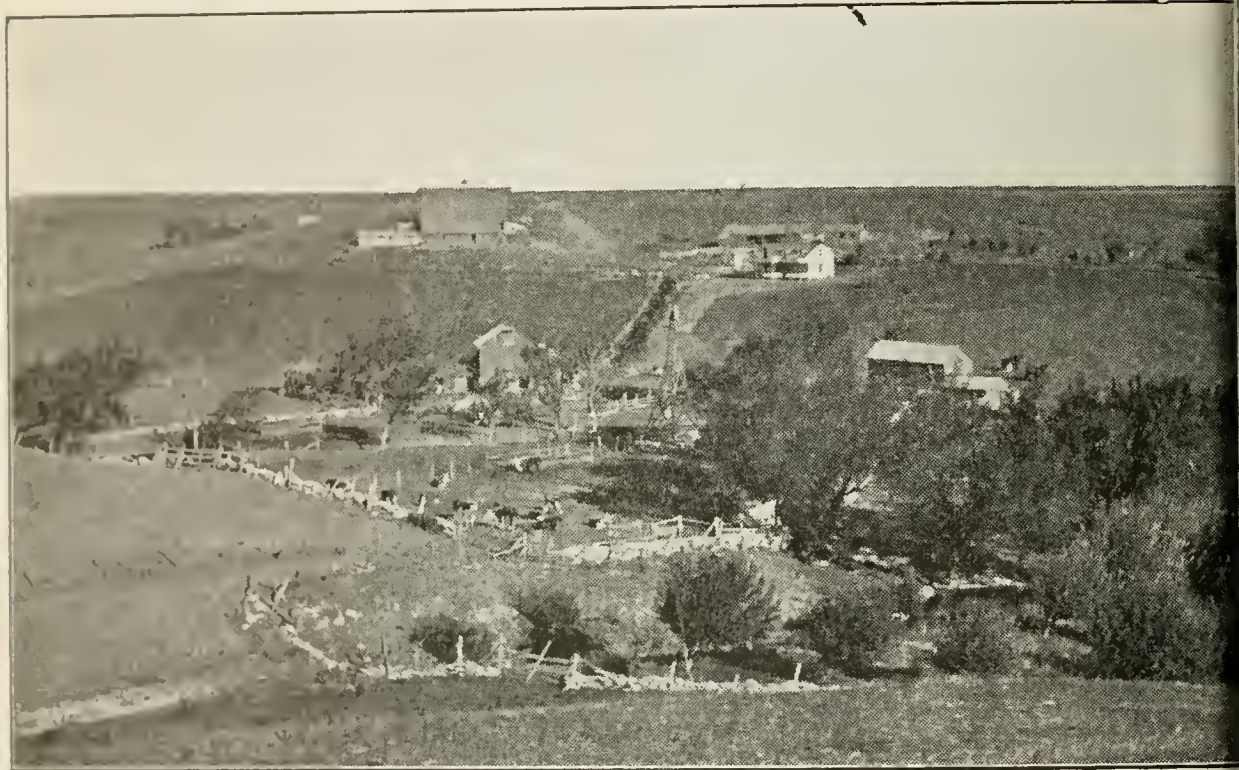
H. F. DIERKING, *President.*

WM. ADDIE, *Cashier.*

Directors: J. W. Spencer, U. Thomas, V. G. Slack, Ross Cooper, S. P. Snodgrass.

ANDREW BROTHERS

Andrew Brothers, who maintain a well-kept livery, a dray and transfer, are new men in Altavista, having bought out the old-established business of A. P. McLain about a year ago, which consisted of seventeen head of fine horses. Several carriages and wagons are a part of the equipment, and are kept constantly in good order.



View of the Ranch of John W. Naylor, Altavista, breeder of registered and high-grade Hereford Cattle. Herefords of the leading strains—Anxietys, Archibalds, Columbus, and Acrobats.

WOLGAST LUMBER CO.

Among the people who figure in the building of a town is the man who furnishes the wherewithal to build. Mr. William Wolgast, who went into the lumber business in 1902 has furnished most of the lumber used. In 1904 he bought out M. L. Hull & Son, pioneer lumberman of Altavista. Having the two yards, Mr. Wolgast was then well equipped to handle all the lumber the town needs. In 1905 Herman Wolgast, brother of the lumberman, bought a half interest in the lumber yards and the business has since been conducted under the name of the Wolgast Lumber Co. The bulk of the lumber handled is yellow pine from Arkansas, Texas, and Louisiana. Most of the finish is bought in Oregon. The trade is in Altavista and tributary country.

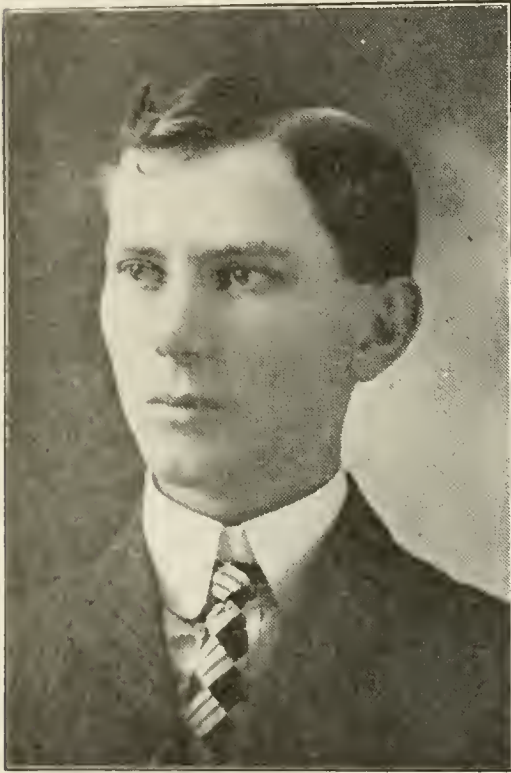


W. H. H. Smith, M. D.

W. H. H. Smith, M. D., and a registered druggist, of Altavista, Kansas, was born at Jerseyville, Illinois, April 6, 1858, and came to Kansas in 1890, beginning the practise of medicine at Eureka, but came to Altavista in 1897, succeeding Dr. E. W. Eldridge in the practise of medicine and the drug business. By hard work and close attention to business the doctor has built an enviable reputation as a physician, besides making his drugstore the most attractive and complete of any in the county. The doctor will soon retire from active practise of his profession and take life easy at his country home, one

of the most beautiful quarter sections in Wabaunsee County, just four miles east of town.

Dr. W. H. H. Smith was graduated from the University of Valparaiso, Indiana, taught school twelve years, the last five years of which time he was State Teachers' Institute instructor; attended the Missouri Medical College one year, was graduated from the Northwestern Medical College, St. Joseph, Mo., 1890; was married to Maria Rhodes, of Effingham, Ill., February 22d, 1882, four children being born to this union—Grover Eugene, graduate of the pharmacy department of the University of Valparaiso, in 1906, now has a position in the laboratory department of the Smith Drug Company, Salt Lake City, Utah; Herman, 19 years of age, and a student of the State University of Lawrence; and Dewey and Wm. H. H., two youngest of the four children.



A. H. Meseke

Among the young men whose enterprise is giving Altavista new life and impulse is A. H. Meseke. He is the son of Herman and Caroline Meseke and was born in Wabaunsee County, April 18th, 1879. He attended common school at Templin and at the age of 13 entered the Salina University, where he completed the commercial course in 1895. He entered the Alma State Bank (now the Alma National Bank), at Alma, Kansas, as book-keeper and was later elected Assistant Cashier. In 1900, A. H. Meseke, with others, organized the Altavista State Bank at Altavista and opened a real estate office.

January, 1905, he was elected President of the Altavista State Bank. September, 1904, he was married to Miss Lillian E. Simon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Simon, of Alma, Kansas.

KISTLER & ARNDT

Probably the most important factors in the development of a town are the men who started in business with the town and stayed with it through good and bad. Such a business is the Hardware Store of Kistler & Arndt, which started the same year Altavista was established, under the name of J. B. Kistler, J. S. Kistler owning an interest in it. The business prospered with the town and under careful management has greatly enlarged. In 1906 the interest owned by J. B. Kistler was bought by J. S. Kistler and Herman Arndt and the firm name became Kistler & Arndt. This store handles the latest and most up-to-date appliances in farm machinery and tools as well as the usual hardware stock.



UNION THOMAS' MEAT MARKET

Union Thomas entered business in Altavista in 1888. Sold meat in connection with restaurant. Closed restaurant business in 1890 and continued meat market. In 1897 Mr. Thomas dug an ice-pond north of town, from which he gets not only his own supply of ice, but also supplies his customers. The ice from this pond is pure as well water.

We have been requested to mention Miss Addis, of Topeka, Kansas, in this book. She is the only lady jeweler in this part of the country and her place of business has won fame on account of having a contract for many of the precious articles which have so recently taken an advance. This is the one reason why she has been credited with the extreme amount of sales, of which a large portion has gone into the new homes in Wabaunsee County. She invites everyone to make her place of business (817 Kansas Avenue) their headquarters while in the City. She handles very rich cut glass, hand-painted china, watches, clocks, diamonds, silverware, latest novelties and souvenirs. Wedding-rings are made to order. Courteous treatment is said to be the pride of this house. Miss Addis prides herself in having the finest line of Christmas presents in the city. A lady jeweler is not often heard of and should be encouraged. Expert repair department. Old jewelry made new.

Eskridge.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Bakery.

Meyers & Gee.

Banks.

Eskridge State Bank.

Security State Bank.

Barber-Shops.

City Barber Shop.

Star Barber Shop.

Blacksmith.

Fred Baker.

Carpenter.

W. H. Peet.

Dentist.

Dr. A. H. Reynard.

C. A. Kraus.

Drays.

Beach & Bashor.

Mace Bros.

Druggists.

E. R. Brown.

J. G. Trueblood.

Dry Goods and Groceries.

H. Hersberger.

N. E. Reed.

Flour Feed and Coal.

Miller & Son.

K. C. Berry.

Furniture and Undertaking.

Geo. D. West.

General Merchandise.

Mudge Mercantile Co.

W. A. Harris.

Hardware and Machinery.

W. A. Waugh.

Hotels.

Palace Hotel.

Merideth Hotel.

Jeweler.

N. N. Spaulding.

Lawyers.

J. R. Moreland.

J. E. Martin.

Livery.

Martin Schwartz.

Lumber Yards.

S. B. Chapman.

D. Worden.

Meat Market.

Wm. Parmiter.

Millinery.

Kelley Sisters.

Mrs. Anna Mears.

Newspapers.

The Eskridge Star.

Wabaunsee County Tribune.

Paint.

Robertson Paint Co.

Painters and Paper Hangers.

C. D. Marshall.

Potographers.

Easter's Photograph Gallery.

Physicians and Surgeons.

Dr. C. William Walker.

Dr. M. F. Trivett.

Dr. A. L. Lemon.

Pumps.

S. M. Handley.

Real Estate Dealers.

F. L. McCoy.

C. C. Moreland.

W. H. Melrose.

Restaurants.

T. A. Endsley.

Sells Everything.

Wm. Trustler.

W. H. Earl.

The town is located on a plateau 1,700 feet above sea level. A range of hills rises to the north and west, from which Eskridge looks like a grove with a church in it, so completely is it covered by the foliage of its trees. Situated near the head of four streams, the Dragoon, Mission Creek, Mill Creek, and Elm Creek, this town has a large area of rich country tributary to it and its nearness to Topeka and Kansas City makes these lands very valuable for all kinds of special and general farming.

Eskridge is an important shipping point. It is the center of the greatest Shorthorn district in the world. There are about 1,000 head of pedigreed cattle within a radius of twenty miles. Some of these animals are worth thousands of dollars.

The whole town has a well-kept, thrifty appearance. Its business blocks are substantially built of native stone or brick. Unlike Alma, it never had a boom of any sort to string its nerves up to a tension, and then let them down, but has enjoyed a steady growth from the beginning.

Eskridge has unusual educational advantages for a town of its size. Besides its excellent graded and high schools, it is the fortunate possessor of a university which reflects great credit on the town. This is the Wesleyan University, a Bible School founded in 1901, by men of lofty ideas and great faith, and ambitious to make it the foremost institution of its kind in the United States. Many people do not realize the value of a college to a town. Aside from a matter of culture, a college

always brings money and business to the locality, not only in what the attending students spend, but in donations and gifts, the benefit of which the community receives in the end.

THE FIRST ESKRIDGE.

The history of Eskridge begins with the establishment of what is now called East Eskridge, in 1861, two years after the county seat fight came up. With characteristic enterprise Eskridge at once got into the game, although she had only one house at the time. By an offer of a court house square and a building to be donated to the use of the county, Eskridge at the election, February 7th, 1871, polled 256 votes against 269 for Alma, 217 for Newbury, and 2 for Wabaunsee.

The race was now between Eskridge and Alma. Another election was called three weeks later, and Eskridge lost to Alma by thirty-six votes.

It was in this year that Col. Ephraim H. Sanford, the founder of Eskridge, started a paper called the Landmark. This was the second paper established in the county. The press and other material was brought from Emporia and had been the property of a man by the name of Eskridge, for whom Sanford named his town. We have said his town, because he founded it on his own land, of which he owned six or seven hundred acres in the vicinity. He was a man of great energy and enterprise, and had apparently made a success of everything he undertook.

He held many offices of honor and won distinction in politics and war. His strenuous temperament is nowhere more prominent than in his loyalty to his own town. According to his idea, Eskridge was the central point of the whole globe—according to his map, all railroads lead to and from Eskridge, and according to the pictures in the Lank Mark, heavy steamers plied the Dragoon, and unloaded their commerce at Eskridge landing. Colonel Sanford was Postmaster for over twenty years and must have been appointed in the early '60s.

Dr. M. F. Trivett and Wm. Earl, who are both live wires in modern Eskridge, lived in East Eskridge in the early days. Dr. Trivett was the first man in the vicinity to own a buggy. Wm. Earl kept a stock of general merchandise from the time the

town first started. He was not only the first merchant in Eskridge, but he has been in business longer than any merchant in the county.

Under the strenuous efforts recounted above, the town assumed village-like proportions and in 1880 had two hotels, two livery-barns and several stores. The population was between 400 and 500.

About this time the Santa Fe surveyed for a road to take the place of the old trail. Bonds were voted all along the line and tradition has it that a load of hop tea was sent to Harveyville and that a few cold ones found their way to Eskridge. The writer does not believe it. It is true, however, that after the road was built the people along the route were given an excursion on the flat freight cars, previously used for hauling dirt. The people were game and went. The train stopped at every corner, and even in the middle of the block if anyone wanted to get on. It rained as usual and rained hard.

Instead of all railroads leading to Eskridge, the only one which did go through, "passed by on the other side" of Colonel Sanford's town, and the little burg had to move over to the west. Dr. Trivett was first to move his residence. He also built the first building. W. H. Earl moved his store building, and built the first new store.

Within three years the town had grown considerably and the surrounding country was being rapidly developed. Eskridge was shipping great quantities of hay for which \$3 per ton was being received.

In 1882 the first paper in the new town "*Home Weekly*," was moved from Alma by W. W. Cone. This was the second of the six papers Eskridge has supported at different times. The rest are *The Eskridge Star*, issued in 1883 by Mitchell F. Fowd and owned at present by Don Busenbark; *Wabaunsee County Democrat*, Dr. Platte, editor—which lasted a few weeks—a little longer than Democrats do in Kansas; *The Eskridge Sun*, A. A. Graham, editor, issued 1888; *The Eskridge Tribune*, Frank Hartman, editor, issued in 1900; *The Wabaunsee County Tribune*, 1900, by Seaman & Carrol.

In 1890 Eskridge had the misfortune of being visited by a destructive fire. All the west side between Trusler's and

Midge's were burned. E. L. Shumate & Son, W. H. Mills, J. W. Taylor, and Parmiter & Son were the principal sharers in a \$25,000 loss.

It was about this time that a new era of prosperity began. The hardships of pioneer life disappeared and people began to have all comforts of life. By this time nearly every farmer had a nice orchard. Fine new homes replaced the small houses put up when "getting a start." Large barns were built to accommodate the produce from improved farms. The effect was soon seen in the growth of the towns and in the volume of business transacted.

To-day Eskridge is the second largest town in the county, and is known far and wide as a "fine town for business." About the only drawback to the place is the poor railroad accommodations. This condition promises to be remedied by the new railroad, the Topeka and Southwestern, which promises to go through before the close of 1907.

Private and Company
Money to Loan.

Farm Insurance
a Specialty.

C. C. MORELAND,

ESKRIDGE, KANS.

Lands, Loans, and Insurance.

I have farms listed for sale, any size you desire; also ranches and town property. Eskridge is a clean, high-class town of about nine hundred population, and growing. It is the best business center for a place of its size in the State of Kansas.

We have a first-class High School, the educational center of the county; any churches, one railroad and another now building. Rural delivery and telephone system complete. Land can be purchased from \$10 to \$60 per acre, owing to location and quality. Will drive to any part of the county.

Will buy, sell or trade land or personal property.

Collections made on reasonable terms. Phone No. 44.

H. Hershberger

Eskridge, Kans.

— SELLS —

High Quality Merchandise

— AND BUYS —

Farm Produce.

When you buy what is best, you buy but
seldom; When you buy what is cheap,
you are buying all the time.

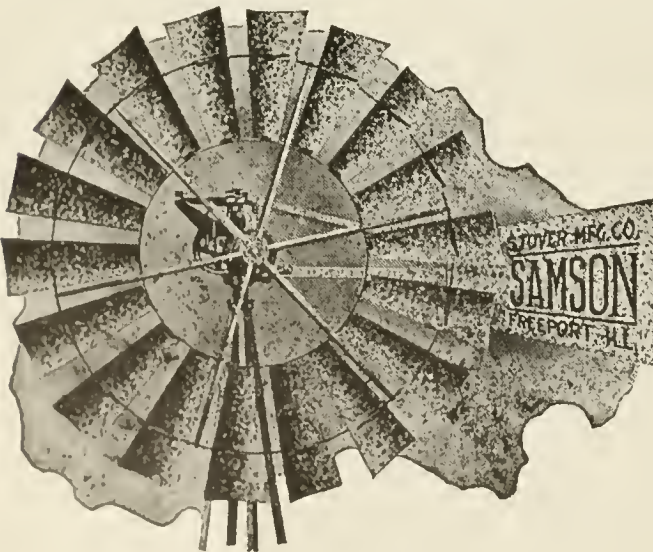
W. H. EARL, Eskridge, Kans.

The oldest pioneer merchant in Wabaunsee County. For forty years we have been supplying the wants of the people in the southern half of Wabaunsee County in the general merchandise business. We carry everything the farmers want in a general way. Have been here all these years and have satisfied thousands upon thousands of customers in the line of Groceries, Dry Goods, Ladies' and Gents' Furnishings, the famous brand of Sunflower Shoes, Crockery, Queensware, Clothing, etc. We buy Flour, Feed, and Salt in car-load lots and sell the best of everything at the lowest possible price. Call and get prices. Highest prices paid for all kinds of produce.

USE BROWN'S HEALING FLUID

for all wire-cuts and other wounds. It can be used with the least trouble and leaves the smallest scar possible. Your neighbor has used it; ask him if he has ever found a better remedy for healing purposes. It is a strong antiseptic and germicide used extensively by farmers and stockmen. Price, 25 cents, 50 cents and \$1 a bottle.

E. R. BROWN, Druggist, .: Eskridge, Kans.



S. M. HANDLEY
Eskridge, Kans.

Dealer in Wind-mills, Pumps, Power Mills, and Gasoline Engines, Bathtubs and Kitchen-sinks, Steel Tanks and Wooden Tanks. Agent for the De Laval Separator, the best on earth; also oil for same.

Harveyville.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Banks.

Harveyville State Bank.

Barbers.

Wm. Grigsby.

Ed Teel.

Cream Stations.

Charles Droege.

Burt Bonner.

Contractors of Brick, Stone
and Plaster Work.

Wetzel & Duff.

Dry Goods.

J. R. Turner.

Drug Store.

Dr. L. A. Walker.

Elevators.

Garringer, Ferrel & Co.

Osage Grain and Elevator Co.

Furniture Stores.

M. P. Cook.

Groceries.

Earley & Root.

Heinlein Bros.

Jas. S. May.

Hardware.

A. E. Copp.

Thompson Hardware Co.

Harness.

J. T. Fields.

Hotels.

Santa Fe House.

Livery Stable.

J. A. Beauchamp.

Lumber Yards.

Oettinger Lumber Co.

Meat Market.

Ferrel & Goodkins.

Newspapers.

Harveyville Monitor.

Physicians.

Dr. C. L. Youngman.

Real Estate Dealers.

A. A. Denney.

S. B. Easter.

Restaurants.

M. L. Ray.

J. T. Bliss.

Harveyville is a town of about 450 people, in an excellent location. For miles around are the rich flats of the Dragoon, where the country population has become wealthy. The cattle and hog business is the principal money-making occupation, although large shipments of produce and cream are continually being made. There are two "cream days" each week, and on these days the trade is very heavy at Harveyville, and there isn't room on the streets to accommodate the teams of the patrons.

EARLY HISTORY.

Although the town of Harveyville was not founded until the coming of the Santa Fe Railroad, the history of Harvey settlement dates back to 1854, when Henry Harvey and his two sons took land on the Dragoon. The next year a claim was taken up by I. M. Harris not far from the present site of Harveyville. The Pitman and Gilbert families and Morris Walton also settled in the vicinity about this time. The Harveyville territory was settled along the rich bottoms where there was plenty of moisture and little danger of destructive high water.

In these days it was a custom to winter in Missouri, because there was nothing to eat in Kansas. The Indians were a great annoyance, not that they were dangerous, but they pestered the settlers continually with their begging. Even with the excellent natural conditions in this section it was hard getting a start. The outlook for good crops was often spoiled by drouth, grasshoppers, or prairie-fires.

In 1857 the slavery question was warm and there was a general influx of settlers to Kansas. A number of people came to Harveyville settlement. Among them was Joseph Johnson, who took a claim on the Dragoon where he is still located. For many years he was the only carpenter, and he built all the first houses in Wilmington and Harveyville. He manufactured all the window- and door-casings, flooring and finishing material from rough lumber by hand.

The first Fourth of July celebration in this vicinity was held in 1857.

There were no railroads west of the Mississippi. Goods were hauled to Kansas City and the settlers went there to buy. In

summer it was bad enough, but in winter these trips were perilous. Gradually the market become more convenient. First it was moved to Leavenworth, where there was no longer necessity of crossing the river, next to Atchison, then Lawrence and Topeka, and finally to Burlingame. Ox teams were used exclusively, as the ox is a better pioneer than the horse or mule. Aside from the fire and floods, and the natural hardships attending the settlement of a new country, the tenor of the Harveyvillits way has been tolerably even. The Underground Railway ran through the Harvey settlement and the good housewives were often called out at night to get supper for two men and ask no questions.

In 1858 a mail station was established on the Dragoon and was kept at Dodge and Saunders. The stage coach of 1858, such as traveled the Santa Fe Trail south of Harvey Settlement, is described as a massive affair with a large boot attached behind for baggage. It was generally drawn by mules.

Sod corn was the principal crop. It was planted by chopping a hole in the sod of fresh-broken prairie and dropping the seed in. Those who were fortunate enough to have cows, made money by selling butter in Kansas City.

What little progress was made by 1860 was given a serious set-back that year by the drouth. No rain fell for a year and six months. Many settlers were discouraged and returned home.

War broke out and took the strength of the country to the front. Those who remained at Harveyville joined Company A of the Osage Battalion. Company A drilled at Wilmington. This battalion was not ordered into service till 1865, when it was sent to Missouri. They marched to Kansas City and took part in the "Battle of the Blue," where the advance orders were not to shoot, whatever happened.

After the war came the grasshoppers, whose visit is described in another part of this book. When the pest arose the third day, leaving barren desolation behind, starvation stared the people in the face. Henry Harvey went to Ohio to solicit aid and was successful. Provisions and clothing were sent to Atchison and hauled from there to the settlers.

The next stirring event was the Pike's Peak gold fever. The Santa Fe Trail was alive with traffic. Men came in all manner

of conveyances, and even on foot, pushing wheel-barrows or carrying grips.

In 1874 there was another serious drouth. Ohio was again appealed to, and responded generously. Mr. Joseph Fields did the soliciting and managed the distribution of the goods.

This brings us down to the time when the Santa Fe Railroad came to the place of the trail at Harveyville—in 1880. The day the bonds were voted in Harvey Settlement, a wagon-load of hop-tea was sent by the railroad company as a gentle persuader. Then the town was laid out. Some years before this a townsite had been located about a mile north of the present site, called Lexington, but no lots were sold.

The land where Harveyville stands was first taken under military law, as a bounty from the Government to Te Par Kee, minor child of Eme Eman Thluseca, Corporal of Captain Hopie Haarjus, Company A, Creek Volunteer of Seminole War. Samuel B. Harvey obtained the land from the child's guardian, and it was granted to him as a patent, which was signed by President Buchanan in 1860. Later it was sold to Morris Walton and this deed is one of the earliest on record in the country.

The first man to start into business in the new town was Alpheus Glasscock. John Thompson soon followed Glasscock was a store building. George Woods and Eli Henderson operated an elevator and hay-baling establishment. George Woods built a store and put in a fine stock of hardware. Walton Bros. kept a general store.

This was the beginning but it was ten years before Harveyville was able to hold her own trade which was going to Burlingame, and it is only within the last few years that people have ceased to consider an occasional shopping trip to Burlingame necessary.



Garinger-Farrell Elevator Co., deals in all kinds of grain and elevator stuff, and in Meat Meal. Located at Harveyville, Kansas.

The Thompson Hardware Co., of Harveyville

started in their present business January 20th, 1905. In May of that year the business done amounted to \$334.90. The business for May, 1906, was \$1,072.42. The business for May, 1907, was \$2,945.00. The growth should be noted. They are building a large stone store into which they will move this fall, and where they will continue to handle everything found in a first-class hardware store, including cutlery, silverware, ammunition, fishing tackles, baseball supplies and builder's hardware; also farm implements (of which they have sold three cars this spring), vehicles and up-to-date farm machinery of all kinds.

Keene.

One of the localities soon to be greatly benefited and developed by the building of the railroad between Topeka and Council Grove, is the neighborhood about Keene. It is one of the oldest settled sections of the country. At the time the Beecher Bible and Rifle Company came to Wabaunsee, land was also being taken in this part of Mission Township. Among the earliest was the Mossman family who came in 1856. Mr. S. L. Mossman then a boy of seven, still occupies the original homestead. The Beach family came in 1857. Mr. W. K. and Mack Beach have fine homes in Keene at the present time. Other earlier settlers were, Captain Henry, Mr. Mason, John Doty, William B. Hill and William Collins. A store was opened in 1858, where tobacco, sugar, drygoods and wet goods (mostly the latter) were sold to the Indians. In 1861 a stage route was established between Topeka and Council Grove, on about the same route as the new railroad is to be built. A postoffice was opened at that time. A rural delivery now takes the place of the postoffice.

In 1874 the site was moved one-half mile farther west, and a permanent store established. Mr. G. A. Eberhardt the present proprietor of the store does a general mercantile business. He has been in the vicinity for forty years and is a substantial citizen and enterprising business man.

There is also a blacksmith shop, a public hall, and a large schoolhouse. The surrounding farms are fertile, their owners prosperous, and there are many fine homes in the vicinity.

Maple Hill.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Banks.

The Stockgrowers State Bank.
Maple Hill State Bank.

Barber.

Frank Stephens.

Coal Dealer.

H. R. Williams.

Druggists.

Chas. F. Payne.

General Stores.

Davis Stewart.
Ormbee & Updegraff.

Grain Buyers and Feeders.

Fowler & Tod.

Hardware and Implements.

Chas. P. Banker.

Hotels.

Windler Hotel.

Livery Stable.

R. A. King.

Lumber Yards.

The Star Lumber Company.
J. Thomas & Son.

Meat Market.

Mercantile Meat Market.

Physicians and Surgeons.

Dr. J. M. Kemper.
Dr. C. E. Yates.

Restaurant.

Chas. E. Greaser.

Maple Hill is one of the newer towns of the county, yet it has an interesting early history. It was a part of the Pottawatomie Reserve and the French who settled in the vicinity were, with the exception of a few adventurers, the first settlers in the county. This settlement was made in 1844 at the time of the ratification of the treaty between the Government and Indians. Chief among these French people was a large family of Bourassas, of which Mr. Eugene Bourassa seems to have been the head. They built grist-mills and saw-mills and the old dams are still to be found on Mill Creek. Their principal business was grist and lumber work for the Government. They also supplied

the Indians and goods: There was another family came with the Bourassas in 1844, Shorey by name. One of the early landmarks is a stone set up by the explorer, Freemont, who stopped with the Bourassas in 1843, on his way west. Later others were added to the settlement. One of the first marriages on record is that of Isabella Bourassa and R. H. Watterman in 1859.

In 1864, Maple Hill was organized as a voting precinct and the polls were at Watterman's place. This place is known as Rocky Ford. The Santa Fe Trail crossed the Kaw River just above the rocks. The first postoffice was on the Watterman place; later it was moved to Eugene Bourassa's, then to Wellhouse's, and from there to George Mouer's.

In 1861 the treaty for breaking up the Pottawatomie Reserve was ratified, and in 1866 the allotments of land was made to the Indians, and the surplus lands opened for sale by the Santa Fe Railroad Company. This encouraged immigration, but settlement was slow. It was the habit of settlers to stop at Mill Creek for a sojourn of a few weeks or months, and go on west. In 1872 there were about eighteen families living in the settlement.

The early settlers of Maple Hill do not tell so many stories of hard times as do the settlers of other vicinities. They did their trading at St. Marys and sent their children there to school until a schoolhouse was built at home. They were on friendly terms with the Indians and liked them very much as neighbors. The French settlers intermarried with them. These Indians have the reputation of being industrious and fair in their dealings. They lived in small buildings, and were self-respecting enough not to beg.

There was no road at this time except the Fort Riley branch of the Santa Fe Trail.

The stone schoolhouse was built in the early days in a historic spot. It began with one pupil—Eugene Bourassa. The teacher's name was Loofe. This schoolhouse was a kind of public hall in the early days, and all meetings, religious and secular, were held in it. S. H. Fairfield used to collect taxes there, before Maple Hill and Newbury townships were divided.

In 1873 there was a large influx of settlers from Massachusetts. They were the children and relatives of Santa Fe officials,

and had plenty of money. Things began to hum. They built large stone houses and fitted themselves out regardless of expense. From all accounts their occupation was farming, cattle-raising, and money-squandering.

In 1882 a man came who has ever since figured prominently in the affairs of Maple Hill. This was George Fowler, a son of the Fowler who owns the packing-house in Kansas City. He fenced in considerable land, and incidentally fenced up the Santa Fe Trail.

There was a leap in the value of lands as they began to be fenced and brought under culture. About this time the nucleus of a town was formed.

About 1884 a store was started by Brooks and Verits, on the Pine Ranch, about two miles south and west of the present site of Maple Hill. Soon after the third partner, J. N. Dolley, was taken in. They did business in this manner until about 1866, when Mr. Brooks retired and Verity and Dolley continued the business. The postoffice, which had for years before been established and had gone from one farmhouse to another, was moved into the store in about 1884, where it remained until moved to the railroad town in 1887.

Dr. Kemper was the pioneer doctor, having come here and established a practise near the old Maple Hill store in the early eighties, and moved into town.

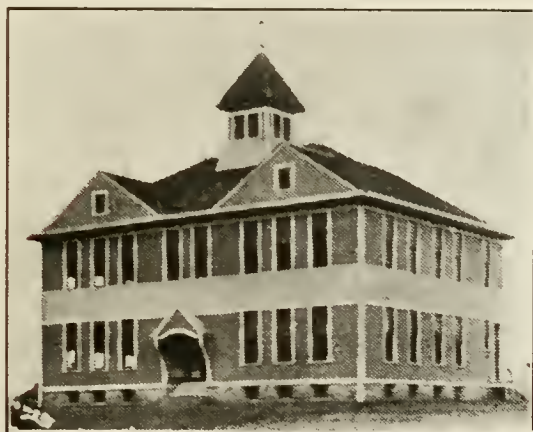
The stone church was built and dedicated about 1885, and services were held there until 1902 or 1903. It being so far from town the Congregationalists moved into town and built a new church. Much credit in building both these churches was due to Rev. W. S. Crouch and his helpful wife.

During the fall and summer of 1886 several surveys were made up the Mill Creek Valley, crossing the large ranches and its prosperous farms. The survey made up the railway company, called the Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska, was afterwards bought by the Rock Island interests. After passing the junction of Mill Creek and the Kaw River in Northeast Wabaunsee County, the interests intended to form a junction between the Fort Worth and Colorado lines at a point about one mile east of the present site of Maple Hill, which was the most natural place. As there was a fight between the two large ranches, the Fowler

Ranch and the Pierce Ranch, as to where the town should be located, the Rock Island decided to go where they were given more encouragement (McFarland) and the two factions were left to fight out their own town battle. The Fowler site was finally, after a very warm fight, successful in capturing the town, and in August, 1887, after the depot and side-tracks had been build, Mr. Fowler advertised a free excursion to Maple Hill from Kansas City and Topeka. Three trains were needed to carry the crowd. A free dinner was also given, also a free dance at night in the Hereford barn on the Fowler Ranch. At the time of the sale of lots there had been only a few buildings erected. J. N. Dolley had a store and warehouse near the corner of Third and Maine Streets, which was the first store in the present townsite. J. H. Verity and the Pierce interest had a store just west and south of town, where the postoffice was kept, as J. H. Verity was the postmaster at the old store which was about a mile and one-half south and west. A few years later a stone store was built on Main Street, near the Fowler elevator and Pierce & Co. succeeded J. H. Verity and occupied the stone building, R. S. Smith occupying the former Verity store, which had then been moved to the south end of Main Street, as a hardware store. This store was soon transferred to Warner & Griggs, of Topeka, who conducted a paying business there until about 1901, when they sold to Taylor Bros. The Pierce store existed and did a thriving business, but much of this was credit, until about 1893, when they were succeeded by Wm. Robinson. Shortly after this store had changed hands, J. N. Dolley purchased the stone store and rented Rhinearson his former stand and the two stocks were transferred to W. R. Bracken, who conducted it for about a year and moved the stock away. About 1893, J. N. Dolley took in a partner (David Stewart) and the firm was known as Dolley & Stewart and the stock increased. A furniture and clothing department was added. From 1893 this firm carried a larger stock of goods than is usually found in a small town, being about a \$20,000 stock, and had a good selection of anything that could be desired.

The first house built in Maple Hill was the Gilbert Stewart property, which was formerly the farmhouse on the Fowler Ranch. Mr. Simms built on Third and Fowler Avenue which

was really the first house built after the starting of the town. Joseph Hetherington started a blacksmith and wagon-shop near Third and Fowler the same year. W. B. Small built the Windler Hotel, lit it by gas and heated it by steam for several years. It was well kept and did a good business during the summer as a fishing resort and many people from Topeka and elsewhere made this their favorite outing place. Reed & Smith thinking there was prospect for a larger town during the boom days of the eighties and nineties bought forty acres of the Stone farm and plotted it into a suburb of the town. This is now nearly all taken several parties owning four to six tracts.

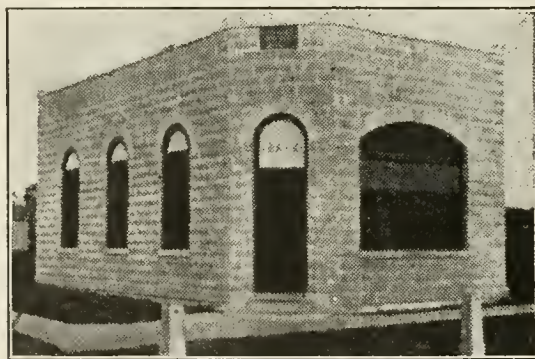


Maple Hill Public School Building.

About 1888 Thos. Brownlee was appointed postmaster, which position he filled until about 1892, when J. W. Clark, our pioneer harnessmaker, was appointed his successor. Mr. Brownlee started a general merchandise store on a small scale while in the postoffice, which he afterward continued and increased until about 1902. J. W. Clark kept the postoffice about two years and resigned about 1893, and Geo. H. Smith, the pioneer druggist, was appointed. He held the position until the fall of 1897, when H. E. Beaubien was appointed. He held the place until October 1, 1889, when H. R. Williams was appointed and has held the position ever since. Soon after Mr. Smith was removed

as postmaster he sold his drug stock to Charles F. Payne ,of Topeka, and moved to Spokane, Washington.

In the early spring of 1900 when everything was dry, in the small hours of the night, Maple Hill receiver her first backset. Some one discovered a fire at the rear of the drug-store and gave the alarm. In a short time there were several men on hand with buckets and water, but not until the fire had made such headway in the drug-store that no one could enter. This fire destroyed five buildings, the drug store, Dr. Menard's office, adjoining it, the Axley store, and Stewart's meat market and ice-house. By heroic work the contents of all but the drug-store were saved. These buildings were soon replaced by better ones.



Maple Hill State Bank.

In November of the same year, in the night, fire was again discovered, this time on the outside of the building occupied by Dolley & Stewart's clothing and furniture store. This fire spread until it swept away the barber-shop next door and Dolley & Stewart's warehouse in the rear, but by heroic efforts the Fowler cribs and elevator, as well as a large quantity of the contents of Dolley & Stewart's warehouse, also the stone or main store of Dolley & Stewart, were saved. New warehouses and other buildings were at once built and business went on as usual, until early in the spring of 1901, the alarm of fire was again heard at an early hour in the morning, this time to find the stone store had been afire for several hours on the inside, caused

by spontaneous combustion. After this fire Mr. Dolley withdrew from active business in the mercantile line and Mr. David Stewart, together with Robert Best, formed the firm of Stewart & Best, and bought out Thomas Brownlee, at the old original Dolley stand. This firm was soon succeeded by David Stewart, who again burned out in the fall of 1903, fire having caught from the adjoining building. He at once moved into other quarters and continued business. Mr. Dolley was then in the real estate and insurance business. In 1904 he entered politics.

Thomas Brownlee moved to Dover and died in 1905. W. E. Small closed the Windler Hotel in about 1899 and moved to Blackwell, Oklahoma. While proprietor of the hotel he served two terms as Register of Deeds of Wabaunsee County. Gilbert Stewart, the pioneer butcher, sold out about 1900, bought a farm and was not actively engaged in business until 1907, when he began to buy and ship hogs.

R. T. Updegraff, who started the first lumber-yard, began business about 1888, and continued in it until January 1, 1905, when he sold to Star Lumber Company, to act in the capacity of President of the Maple Hill State Bank, which was organized in the fall of 1904, with R. T. Updegraff as president, and Chas. P. Banker as cashier. In 1907 he bought an interest in the store, established by F. L. Grove in about 1898, at this time being owned by T. W. Ormsbee, and formed the Maple Hill Mercantile Company.

W. S. Isham had been tinner here for several years until a mail-box for rural mail patrons was patented in 1902, and a company formed to manufacture the boxes. It was called the Maple Hill Manufacturing Company and was composed of J. N. Dolley, W. S. Isham, P. C. Chamberlain and H. R. Williams. This firm did business for two years. During the first year 10,000 of these boxes were made and shipped. About ten men were employed during this year. The second year was not so prosperous and in the fall the whole business was sold out to W. S. Isham.

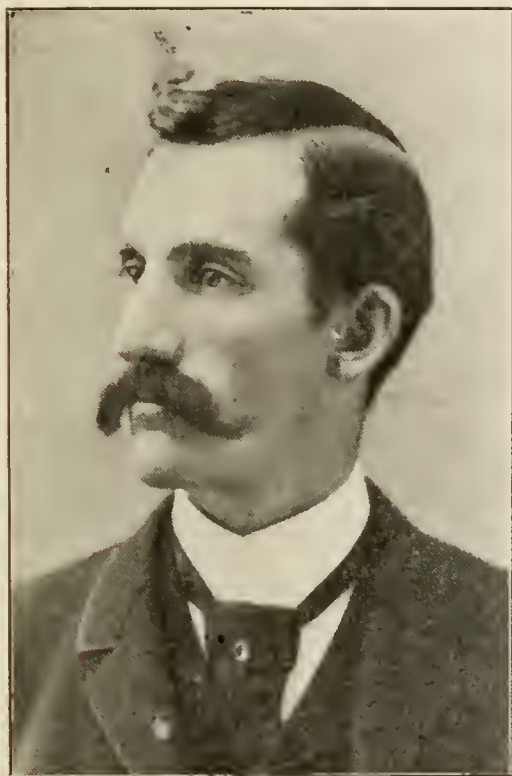
The Business Men's Commercial Club was formed in 1900, with W. J. Todd as president, John Turnbull, vice-president, and G. P. Sturgis, secretary and treasurer. Its objects were the welfare and the benefit of the business interests of Maple Hill. They did many commendable things, among them being the plant-

ing and cultivating of about one hundred shade trees along some of the principal streets.

Maple Hill has two churches, the Congregational, established in the old Adams schoolhouse about 1862, and the M. E. Church, established about 1888. The school-building built in 1904 is the pride of the town and surrounding country.

The Stockgrowers' State Bank was organized in October, 1906, with Franklin Adams, president; J. N. Dolley, vice-president; and J. D. Weaver, cashier. They did a general banking business and are doing a fine business for a small town.

For several years after the second fire there was no hall in town for lodge work or public meetings, but in 1905, J. D. Weaver put up a two-story stone building—a storeroom below and hall above.



R. T. Updegraff, leading business man of Maple Hill is president of the Maple Hill State Bank, head of the Ormbee & Updegraff Mercantile Company, the principal general mercantile store. He is also owner of the Winkler Hotel, meat market and a splendid farm near the town. Mr. Updegraff is a native of Ohio but has been in business here ever since he came to Kansas. No man in the county has more diversified business interests than he has and made such a gratifying success. He is the fortunate possessor of a beautiful home and interesting family. To do business in Maple Hill you must see Mr. Updegraff.

CHAS. F. PAYNE, Maple Hill, Kansas

Chas. F. Payne, the only druggist at Maple Hill, was born in London, England, in 1863. At the age of 15 years was apprenticed to a chemist and druggist at Folkeston, County of Kent. After serving his apprenticeship and having passed the examination he secured a position with a leading firm of druggists in Colchester, Essex, where he remained four years, rising to the position of head dispenser (or prescription clerk); resigning to come to the United States in 1887. Mr. Payne has been in business in Maple Hill for over eight years, coming to that place from Topeka, and enjoys the patronage and confidence of the best people in the community. His store is well stocked and is neat and attractive, a feature of the store being no liquors handled for any purpose.

McFarland.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Barber-Shop.

H. J. Borgman.

General Stores.

H. J. Hahn & Co.

F. C. Noller & Co.

Hotels.

Denver House.

Livery and Feed Barn.

Wm. Walters.

Lumber Yards.

McFarland Lumber Co.

Meat Market.

Noller & Theel.

Physicians and Surgeon.

C. R. Siliverthorne.

Restaurants.

Mrs. M. Calaway.

Ringel Bros.

McFarland is strictly a railroad town, and became so by the location of the junction of the Denver branch with the Herington line of the Rock Island, at that place. The location of the junction was fixed in 1887 when the Denver branch was built.

This junction was first intended to be at Paxico. The material for two railroad bridges were unloaded at that point and the Rock Island's civil engineer was on the ground. This engineer made a trip to McFarland, so the story goes, and on his return the location of the junction was changed to McFarland. At Paxico they have the story that the engineer was bribed. The other account is that the company found it impossible to reach the rich bottoms from Paxico and abandoned that point. The location of the junction was then fixed on the southwest quarter of section 31.

S. H. Fairfield, learning of the prospects, bought the southwest quarter of 31. A town company was formed, the members of which were S. H. Fairfield of Alma, C. W. Jewel, James Sury,

George Bates, of Topeka, and Judge J. N. McFarland. Under this town company the land was surveyed, town lots laid out and sold, and a hotel, store, church, and four dwellings erected.

The hotel was sold to John Winkler, of Alma, who by the way is about as historic a character as lives in the county. The church which was built for a Congregational church was sold to the Lutherans.

Watson Aderhold & Co. put a stock of goods in the town company's store building the next year, and became the pioneer merchants of McFarland.

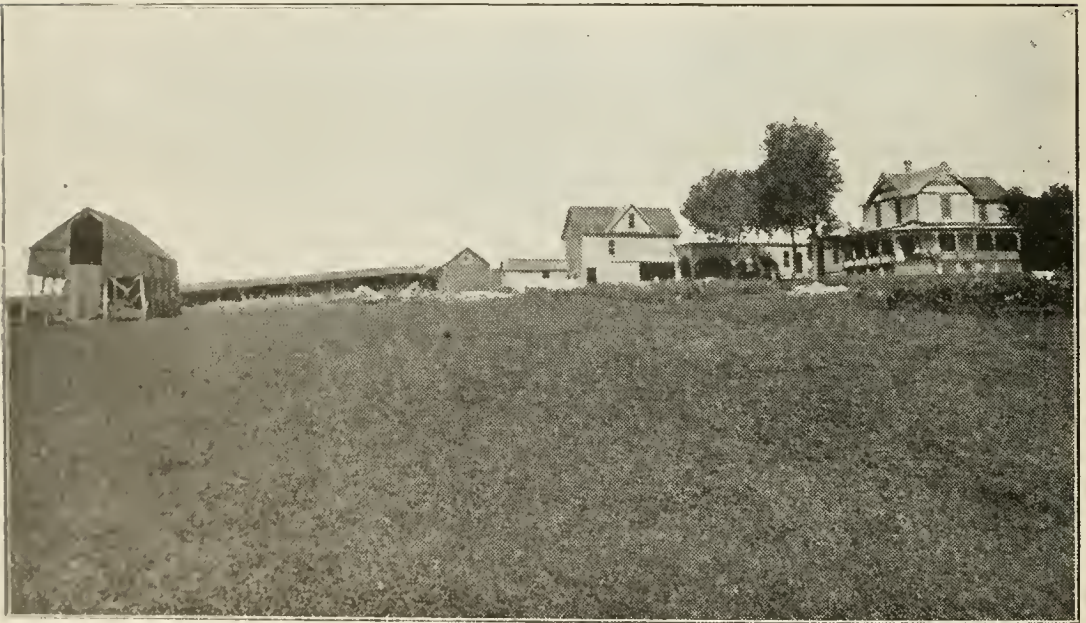


Store of H. J. HAHN & CO., McFarland, Kans.

Dealer in General Merchandise. Complete line of Ladies' and Gent's Clothing and Furnishings. Large stock of Groceries and Notions, Footware, etc. Successors to Wendland Bros.

There is an amusing bit of history connected with the naming of the town. It was laid out by S. H. Fairfield on his own land. Mr. Fairfield was at a loss to know what name to give it. He had started a town about a mile west of this one on the M. A. & B. and had called it Fairfield. There was a postoffice in Russell County by that name. Senator Plumb said that Mr. Fairfield took a bag of beans and went up to Russell County to get the patrons of the Fairfield postoffice to change the name to Hawley, so that his own town could have a postoffice.

There is doubtless more or less truth in this bean story. Whoever doubts it can just look up Russell County on the map, and finds the postoffice of Hawley on a little creek tributary to Smoky Hill River. Any one who would not take Senator



Residence of MR. C. J. COMSTOCK, McFarland Kans.

Mr. G. J. Comstock and wife, who live in the above beautiful home, are the oldest residents of McFarland. They located on the Pau-Pau Creek one mile from town in 1882 while the site of McFarland was still a wheat-field. The above residence on the old Springer place was built in 1905.

Plumb's word for it, after that, must be as skeptical as the man who wouldn't believe that Louis Palenske's pigs climbed thirty feet high into a tree the night of the flood on Mill Creek.

Disliking very much to spoil this story of Senator Plumb's, Mr. Fairfield named the new town on the Rock Island, McFarland after his prime friend, Judge McFarland, of Topeka, although after all these twenty years, he still says the town should have been called Fairfield and would have been, had it not been for that bag of beans.

After the town was started and the first half dozen buildings put up, the bottom fell out of everything and things were at a stand-still for a long time.

The Rock Island, finding their eating-house not well patronized in Topeka on account of there being so many cheaper places, moved it to McFarland. It is a very fine eating-house, but does

DR. C. R. SILVERTHORNE.

Dr. C. R. Silverthorne, one of the most active and public-spirited men of McFarland, is a self-made man in the strictest sense of the term. He was left an orphan at the age of seven and has taken care of himself and became educated. It is a pleasure to give a biography of such a man as an encouragement to young men without advantages.

Dr. Silverthorne was born at Grandview, Ind., August 17th, 1870. He went through common school and at the age of twenty entered the medical department of the United States Hospital as dispensarian. In 1894 he left for St. Louis to attend the Medical College at that place. Three years later he came to Kansas with the sum of \$2.75 and plenty of grit, although he did not know a person in the State. He graduated from the University of the South at Sewanee, Tenn., in 1898. Coming back to Kansas he located at Mayday, Riley County, where he remained six years. In September, 1901, he went to St. Joseph, Mo., and took a postgraduate in Ensworth College, graduating in 1902. He was appointed Rock Island Surgeon at McFarland in December of the same year and has been in active practise in this town ever since. On April 1st, 1905, he was appointed Surgeon on Gov. Hoch's staff and reappointed on April 1st, 1907.

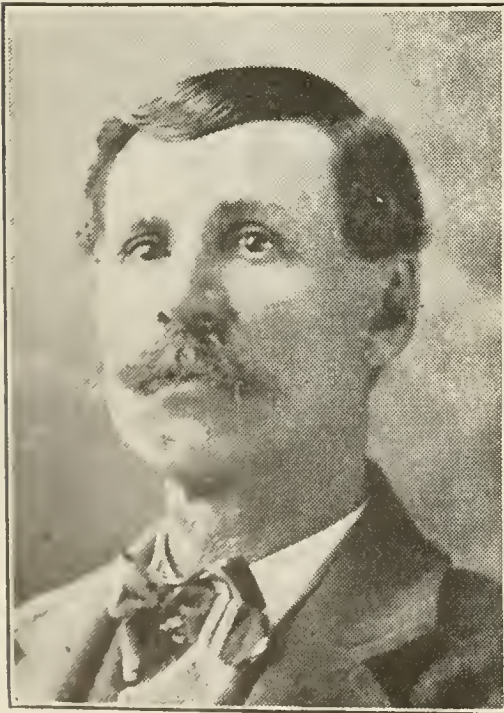
Dr. Silverthorne is a member of the following Medical societies: American Medical Association; American Association of Railroad Surgeons, Rock Island Surgeon's Association, Military Surgeons of the United States, and of both State and County Medical Associations.

not do the town much good as it spoils the restaurant trade. Mr. John Winkler, who conducted a restaurant by the depot, went out of business when the eating-house was built.

The growth was very slow until after 1901, when the railroad company built a sheep-rest and feeding-yards on the property. At that time the town began to come to the front and there has been plenty doing at McFarland ever since.

It has a population at present of 500 inhabitants and is the largest town for its age in the county. It is a very active, busy little town and there is not an unemployed man to be found. Its business places are among the best-patronized stores in the county. There are a number of fine residences already, and more being erected.

As mentioned in the beginning of this article, McFarland is strictly a railroad town. It has fifty trains daily, eighteen of which are passenger trains. It is located on the Mill Creek bottoms which extend toward the south, while a range of low hills rise on the north. The surrounding country is adapted to cattle- and sheep-feeding and general farming.



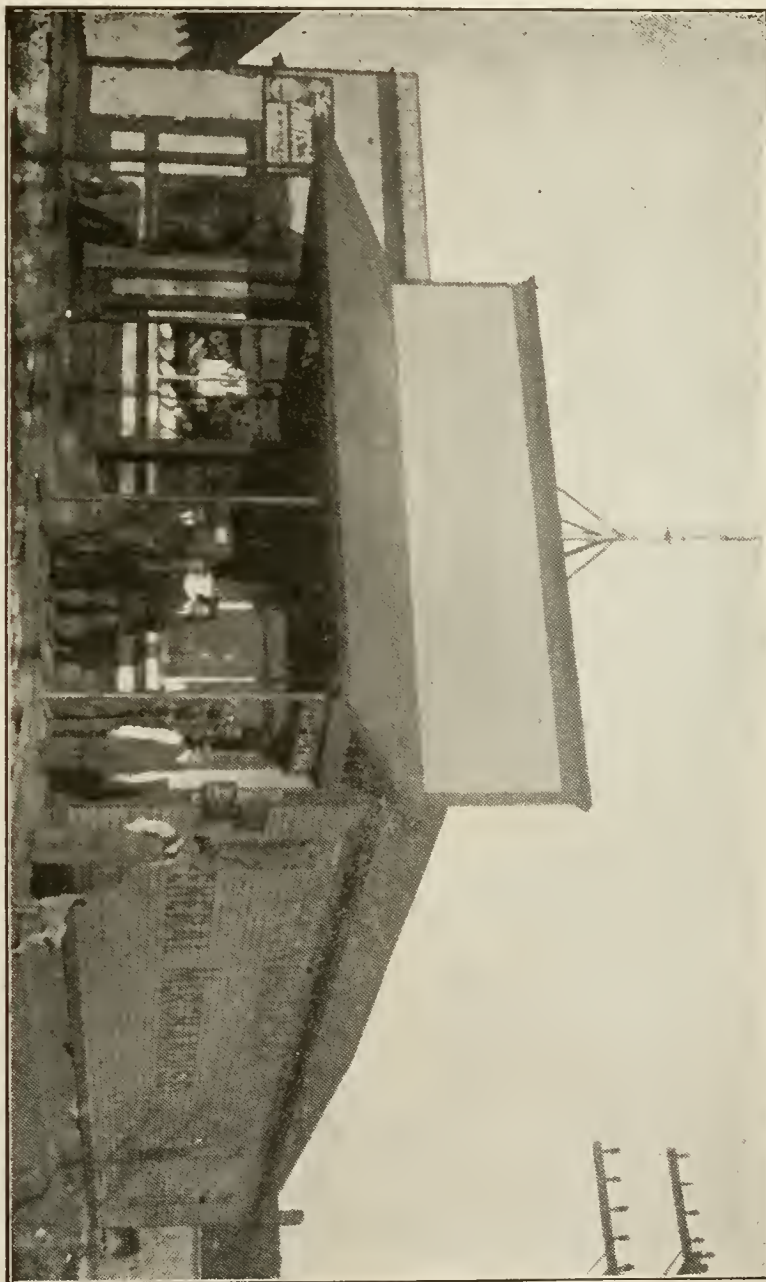
H. B. Channell

Alma, Kans.

Mr. H. B. Channel, of Alma, Kansas, is the auctioneer upon whom we have decided to give credit as being the best in the county, for the following reasons: He is proficient on thoroughbred sales, as he makes it his business to keep posted on what stuff should bring, and because his terms are reasonable. He has been an auctioneer for the last twenty-five years, eighteen of which time he has been in Wabaunsee County. Mr. Channel has his headquarters with J. B. Fields at Alma.

Store of F. C. NOLLER & CO., McFarland, Kans

Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Footwear, Hats and Caps, Ladies' and Gents' Furnishing Goods. A complete stock of everything kept in a first-class general store. Produce wanted. Phone No. 20.



Paxico.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Banks.

State Bank of Paxico.

Blacksmiths.

Jess Davis.

A. J. Pride.

Barbers.

Geo. Woodey.

J. H. Snyder.

Cobbler.

H. Knoober.

Druggists.

J. H. Nutlmann.

General Merchandise.

C. Tomson.

C. J. Glotzback.

Grocery.

Oehms & Palenske.

Hardware.

Muckentahler Hardware Co.

Harness.

Louis Palenske.

Livery Stable.

J. H. Meyers.

Lumber Yard.

Paxico Lumber Co.

Physicians and Surgeons.

Dr. Maynard.

Dr. W. F. Richardson.

Restaurants.

J. C. Phipps.

Wagon Works.

S. Shroyer.

Paxico is located in the valley of Mill Creek, amid surroundings of great natural beauty. Its large area of tributary farm lands are well watered and fertile and constitute a substantial backing for the little town. It is on the main line of the Rock Island and has excellent railroad accommodations. Considerable stock is raised in the vicinity, but the principal farm product is grain, especially wheat. The growth of woods along Mill Creek and the abundance of fish make Paxico a favorite camping place.

HISTORY OF PAXICO.

The history of Paxico naturally opens with a short sketch of Newbury, the town on the hill about a mile from Paxico which has retired from business.

Newbury was settled by an Ohio colony, and the first buildings were put up in 1870. In the fall of 1869 four Germans, John Mock and his father, Joe Glatzbach, and Martin Muckentahler, jointly bought the first land sold on the reserve. At this time there were no white people within five miles of the place, In the spring Newbury was laid out. A man by the name of Bartlett, afterwards mayor of San Francisco, and the Santa Fe Railroad were the originators.

The Santa Fe had bought the whole reservation at \$1 per acre and sold it at from \$5 per acre up, and so was interested in starting towns wherever possible.

The county-seat struggle was not over yet when Newbury came on the scene, and not being immune she had an attack of county-seat aspirations from which most of the small towns were suffering. While she was convalescing from this many people got discouraged and moved away. Those who stuck to it, made money. There was not the keen struggle for existence in this community that there was in the earlier settlements. Markets were handy, and the people were tolerably comfortable from the first.

About a dozen houses were built in Newbury and also a few business places. Goldstandt & Cohen kept the first store. Stringham opened a store in 1872 and later Mahan kept a place called the "Variety Store." Mahan was bought out by Tomson, who still figures prominently in the business life of Paxico. Stephenson built a lumber-yard and James Matheny, from whose son, Atwood, the town of Atwood was named, kept the drug-store. Some of the Newbury people were old settlers in the county. Mr. E. Little (better known as Dick Little) came to Mission Creek in 1857 and settled near what is now the Henderson Ranch. C. Tomson settled on Mission Creek in 1866. Both these parties were afterward influential citizens of Newbury.

About the middle of the eighties, when there was talk of the Rock Island going through, Newbury was working hard to have it come around her way. But meanwhile in 1879, William and Robert Strourg had built a mill on the place formerly owned by the old Indian medicine man, Pashqua, who left for the Indian Territory in 1870. A store was started near the mill by John Copp. A postoffice was established and called Paxico, after the Indian.

When the Rock Island was looking up its location there was a fight between Newbury and Paxico to get the railroad. The scrap went merrily on for some time and finally a compromise was made on the present site of Paxico. Then there was a struggle over which place it should be named for. Paxico won out.

The town was laid out in 1886 and was promoted by a town company which was a Topeka concern. It was called Nuttman's addition. Copp moved his store up from the bridge, and most of the business places were moved over from Newbury. Anderson of St. Marys, who was a member of the town company, built the hotel; also the building now owned by C. J. Glatzbach. There was a chance at one time to have had the Rock Island junction at Paxico, but it got away from them.

About the main thing that distinguishes Paxico from the rest of the towns in the county, is that she never tried to get the county seat. Secondarily are her Fourth of July celebrations, and the weeds in the streets.

GOOD ALL THE TIME.

Snowflake Flour

NEVER BETTER THAN NOW.

Give it a trial.

Paxico Milling Company,

Paxico, Kans.

J. C. Phipps' Restaurant,

Open 18 hours every day.

Cigars and Confectionery.

J. C. Phipps, Prop., Paxico, Kans.

Wabaunsee.

Wabaunsee is a town which we can with a clear conscience call a back number. It is not exactly a town either, just a community. It has one store in which the postoffice is kept, a Woodman's Hall, three churches, two schoolhouses, and twenty-five dwellings. Yet from a historic viewpoint Wabaunsee is probably the most important town in the county. It figured in Kansas history in the days of "bleeding Kansas" with a John Brown in the West and Henry Ward Beecher in the East. The first three towns of the State where in the order of their settlement, Leavenworth, Lawrence, and Wabaunsee. For many years Wabaunsee was the only town west of Topeka.

The first settlers were Joshua Smith and Robert Banks from Massachusetts, who were here when J. M. Bisby and his companions came from New York in 1854.

In the spring of 1855 Rev. Harvey Jones was sent to Wabaunsee by the American Missionary Association of New York. In the fall his wife followed him. In her diary Mrs. Jones mentions that it took a week to travel from St. Louis to Kansas City. At that time a small hotel, two stores and a few houses were all that comprised Kansas City. It was two days' journey with the ox team from that point to Lawrence. In those days some people who indulged in prophecies were of the opinion that the country would never be settled up much west of Tecumseh, and that Topeka would never be a town.

The settlers in those early days lived in small houses enclosed with "shakes." They also had chills most of the time, but one kind of "shakes" had no connection with the other. Chairs, bedsteads, and other furniture were made from cottonwood and elm poles. Although the weather was no colder in those days than it is now the suffering from the cold was terrible, as the houses were not sufficient to keep out the cold and the comforts of life were few. Food was often scarce and people used to live solely on "hulled corn" for weeks at a time. In the spring of 1856 the famous Beecher Bible and Rifle Company of New Haven arrived on the scene. They had sent five men—A.

A. Cottrell, J. J. Walters, Benjamin Street, T. P. C. Hyde, and a Mr. Webb—to look up a location where there was no townsite company to interfere with them in making what rules and regulations they wished. These instructions were responsible for them not settling at Topeka, where C. K. Holliday, president of the Topeka Town Company held out every inducement, except to give up all rights to the townsite. This is what the settlers at Wabaunsee did. The parties to the agreement were J. M. Bisby, Harvey Jones, and Peter Sharris, acting for the town and the five men above mentioned acting for the New Haven colony.

The story of their organization in New Haven to help make Kansas a free State is given in the historical sketch of the county and will not be dealt with here, except to say that the real name of the company was the Connecticut Kansas Colony. There were some women in this colony. Before their coming there were only three women in the Wabaunsee settlement. In the same year the colony was joined by others among whom was S. H. Fairfield, who came to Kansas with the Northern immigrants led by James Redpath. The members of the colony organized a rifle company with others of the neighborhood, under Capt. Wm. G. Mitchell.

The history of this Beecher Bible and Rifle Company includes about the whole history of Wabaunsee, a large part of the history of the county, and is an important item in the history of the State.

At this time the feeling between the Pro- and Anti-slavery parties ran very high and each side were carrying guns and ropes for the other. The President of the United States, the Secretary of War, and all the Territorial officers were doing all they could legitimately and otherwise to make Kansas a slave State. Bogus sheriffs with bogus warrants were sent out after free-State men. Three men who were being thus hunted down came to Wabaunsee in June, 1856, from Topeka, where they had been at work on a free-State constitution. They were Dr. J. P. Root, J. J. Walters, and W. Griswold.

Being shut off from the main line of travel, Wabaunsee itself was not the scene of much of the conflict, but the Rifle Company was engaged in the struggle all the way through. They

took part in the early struggles about Lawrence and Franklin and repulsed the attack of the Missouri bushwhackers. Nearly every member of the Wabaunsee settlement went to the seat of war. They were joined by several free-State men from upper Deer Creek, a settlement west of Wabaunsee. They were gone some six weeks on this trip, and were engaged in every skirmish that took place in or near Lawrence, the last one being just at sunset on Sunday night. The whole body of border ruffians were in camp at Franklin. They came down the main line to Lawrence and were repulsed by the Beecher Rifle Company from a ravine about half a mile from town. This victory has been credited to "the Lawrence Stubbs," but it really belonged to the Wabaunsee boys, as the "Stubbs" were not on the ground, according to the statement of Wabaunsee men.

On their return the men found everything gone to the bad at home. The cattle had eaten up the crops. Many of the boys were sick and there was no money to buy medicine. Flour cost \$6 to \$9 per sack.

The winter of 1856-57 was a very hard one. People were out of food and clothing and the suffering was very great. In the spring things brightened up. Some new settlers were added to the colony.

The famous Beecher Bible and Rifle Church was founded in 1857, with seven members. The first Fourth of July celebration was held in this year. A glorious time was planned. There was a brass band there and thirty-six ox teams decked out in bunting. The Governor of the Territory was the principal speaker.

The people were just beginning to live in comfort when the drouth of 1860 and the Civil War the following year brought hardship and trouble. All the able-bodied men went to the front and most of them saw hard service. During the Price raid every able-bodied man in Kansas was ordered to the front. Captain Palmer gives an excellent description of the Price raid in Volume 9 of the State Historical Society.

The Wabaunsee boys saw the hard part of the Battle of the Blue, otherwise known as the Battle of Westport, where the Missourians and Kansans were pitted against each other, each side on their own soil.

After the close of the war the county-seat trouble came up and Wabaunsee lost the county official effects, which were hauled to Alma in a light wagon with the county officers for ballast in 1867. For three years the struggle was kept up, but at last Wabaunsee dropped behind in the fight and Alma won out. From this time on there is not much to tell of the plucky pioneer town, which was once designated by its enemies as "that d—abolition nest."

Judge Hall, of Wabaunsee, was being interviewed by a *Capital* reporter in 1888. In reply to a question he said, "Yes, Wabaunsee is growing like a cow's tail—growing down."

We have neglected to say that a stone building was erected in 1862 as a home for the Beecher Bible and Rifle Church. This is one of the old landmarks in Kansas and brings early settlers together every year to celebrate the founding of the church. Some of the old rifles are displayed on these occasions, fulfilling the prophetic words of Beecher who said, "Let these arms hang above your doors as the old Revolutionary muskets do in many New England homes. May your children in another generation look upon them with pride and say, 'Our fathers' courage saved this fair land from slavery and blood.'"

Much has been said of the warlike spirit in this article, but that really was not the predominate spirit of the colony. The Bible and Hymn book went along with the rifle, and in many cases the Yale sheepskin also. All four were important factors in pioneer life, and the rifle was not used except in cases where the other three were not practicable.

The *New York Daily Tribune* of April 4, 1856, describes the colony in the following words: "A nobler looking body of men was never seen than the New Haven Colony. They are mostly athletic men with strong hands and strong hearts." For this occasion demanded it, and without strong hearts, strong hands were powerless, while with them, weak hands can move mountains.

SOME LATER HISTORY FROM THE DIARY OF ELIZABETH N. BARR, WHO GATHERED THE HISTORY FOR THIS BOOK.

Maple Hill, July 4th.—We were discussing grasshopper year at the hotel to-day. I told about what terrible straits the people of Harveyville were left in at that time. Some one asked me if I were living at Harveyville at the time. You know grasshopper year was in 1874. I went up stairs and ordered three pitchers of ice water.



Elizabeth N. Barr

Paxico, July 6th.—Came down to the depot to inquire about trains. Saw through the window as I was coming that the station agent was washing his feet,—a most commendable occupation. He saw me. Thinking to give him time to get through, I stayed out doors for a few minutes. When I came in he was still washing his feet—in the waiting room. Looking up innocently he asked: "What do you want?" "Nothing in that line," 'I answered.

Maple Hill, July 8th.—One of the campers came up from the Creek to-day and brought a fish that weighed 49 pounds. Now we were used to fish stories, but this man could show the goods. At first we were stupefied with amazement, and then we all made a rush for the Creek to see the spot where the fish was pulled out. It was a mile and half and we run nearly all the way. The spot showed the marks of a hard struggle and the water was still riled considerably. On our way back we learned that the fish had arrived that afternoon from Lake Michigan in a refrigerator car. The criminal is still at large, but a posse is scouring the woods, and if caught he will probably be lynched before the authorities can interfere.

July 12th.—I have been talking it over with several of the local bachelors and have decided to fix it this way: We counted up the bachelors in Wabaunsee County, and I happen to know that there is a corresponding number of old maids living on Col-

lege Hill, Topeka, Kansas. I will act as agent for the Topeka end of the line and send the spinsters out in car-lots. The first consignment will be shipped September 1st, care of a certain County Commissioner, and the distributing point will be Sunbeam. The next shipment will be in care of Schroeder & Thoes' undertaking establishment. It is not to be inferred from this that the spinsters will be dead ones.

Alma, July 13th.—I used to think the people noted my personal appearance, but I am now quite disillusioned on the matter, Yesterday and to-day I have been going around with my mouth and neck all blistered, my nose twice its natural size, and my eyes swelled shut—the results of poison ivy. I thought I was a great deal uglier than usual, but most of the people didn't notice the difference, until their attention was called to it.

At the present day few pursuits offer to intelligent and industrious young men and women so many attractions as does stenography. Moreover, no line of work offers such great opportunities. Shorthand work naturally fits one for more responsible positions, and then opens the ways to promotion, for the stenographer is always in a confidential capacity, in closest touch with the head of the concern; as he handles his employer's private correspondence, he gets a knowledge of the details of the business such as no other clerk can get, and is naturally fitted by this work for other and higher positions of trust and responsibility.

Because we wish to serve the interests of the young people of Wabaunsee County, we take this opportunity of calling special attention, with our heartiest recommendation, to Dougherty's, the Actual Business Training School, located at 116-118 West Eighth Street, Topeka, which is doing such very successful work in fitting young people for success in the business world. This school is now thirteen years old, and has been steadily growing, both in enrollment and popular favor. Its success has largely been due to the fact that it has been built up on new lines.

Mr. George E. Dougherty, the founder and proprietor, is himself an expert stenographer and a business man of extended experience, having been an employer as well as an employee, and knowing the needs of the business world, he is determined to make better stenographers than the average. That he is succeeding is attested by the growing demand for his graduates. Within the last week he has had fourteen more calls for stenographers than he could supply, and most of these positions offered \$60 a month or more. In one day came three calls from the Santa Fe Railway, one for a \$70 position and two of them

for positions paying \$80 a month. Within three days Dougherty's sent out three students right from school into \$75 positions.

Mr. Dougherty's success is due chiefly to his methods, which he got from his own business experience and not from other schools. While working as a stenographer he had experience in training others for stenographic work by means of the regular work of the office in which he was employed, and when he established his school he founded it upon this plan. Practically all the instruction from the very first is given by means of actual work for business men. This work is very much more varied than that of any one office, consisting of letters in a number of different lines of business, architects' specifications, legal work, medical work, etc. And all of it is done under constant supervision and instruction. The work must be done right, hence this plan insures the maximum of personal attention on the part of teachers and means to the student very much more thorough training. At the same time this work is vastly more interesting to the learner than is play work, and thus, securing and holding his interest and attention, enables him to learn much more rapidly, and upon graduating he is, as a result, prepared to take up business work in a manner to suit his employer.

No other school anywhere is conducted as is Dougherty's in this respect. This feature alone insures very much more proficient stenographers. It "kills two birds with one stone" by giving the student a very great deal of actual experience in connection with his study, so that six months in Dougherty's is equivalent to at least nine months in other schools plus three to six months' experience in an office afterwards. With such thorough business training it is not surprising that graduates of this school find no difficulty in obtaining employment, there being a constantly increasing demand for them.

Topeka has some decided advantages over other cities as a place in which to secure a business training. It is a nice clean city, an unexcelled place in which to live. The student has access to a splendid City Library, to the State Library, State Historical collections, etc. Being the capital of the State, it holds the State officers, an unusually large number of strong law firms, the State headquarters of very many organizations working throughout the State. Here too are the headquarters and the general officers, also the main shops, of the Santa Fe Railroad Company, with its 75,000 employees; also many large mercantile establishments, wholesale and retail. All these business offices require an immense number of stenographers and other clerks. The Santa Fe, through its chief officers here, employs very many stenographers for various points along the line, also. To the citizens of Wabaunsee County, Topeka is much nearer than other cities having business colleges. Hence this is the natural place for them to attend school.

Dougherty's School has the finest location in Topeka, being within a block of the city transfer station, Santa Fe general offices, diagonally opposite the Capitol Square and the City Library, two blocks from the two High School buildings, the largest stores of the city, the daily newspaper offices, the largest printing offices in the city, etc. In fact, it is in the very heart of the business section of Topeka. The school occupies especially pleasant rooms, they being exceedingly well lighted and ventilated. The equipment of the school is pronounced unequalled in the State by those who have had opportunity to see all the schools.

Among the features of this school are Dougherty's Brief Shorthand and Dougherty's Touch Typewriting, both of which are very much different from other methods. Dougherty's Brief Shorthand is by far the simplest system published. It has achieved remarkable success, being used now in all parts of the country and in various parts of the world, where its students have gone and advertised the system by their successful work. The simplicity of the system is due to the fact that it is exactly like longhand in its general principles; it is, therefore, the natural method. For this reason it is not necessary to resort to such complicated methods as the old systems use. All the principles of the system are shown and fully explained on four small pages of the text book.

Dougherty's School has always paid very much more attention to typewriting than do other schools, and this is one reason for the unusual demand for its students. The employer judges the stenographer by the typewritten work, for that is the part of the work which shows; hence, this is the most important part of the stenographer's' equipment.

Dougherty's Touch Typewriting gives results that cannot be secured with ordinary methods. Mr. Dougherty's copyrighted method of teaching the learner the keyboard, for example, gives the learner as much knowledge of the keyboard in ten minutes as he could get by ordinary methods in ten hours. Great stress is laid upon the importance of forming right habits and learning at the very start to do everything in the best way.

Very much attention is given to the proper arrangement and display, margins, etc., in both letters and other business forms. Schools usually have students learn by copying correct forms from a book; in this way they merely follow the copy before them, without a thought or any instruction as to the reason. Hence but little impression is made upon the mind. When the student is doing actual work, as he is required to do in Dougherty's School, from longhand or from his shorthand notes, in which there is no attempt at arrangement, he is compelled to think for himself, he is taught the reason for this and that, and inevitably it makes an impression which stays with him. Some schools have an "actual business department," in which students

for several weeks before leaving school are supposed to practise on real work; but Dougherty's is the only school which *teaches* by means of real work, from the beginning of the course to the end.

But it is necessary to see this school in order to fully understand its decided advantages. We have had experience with students of various schools, and we have no hesitancy in pronouncing this school far superior in its methods and results to any other school we know of.

Mr. Dougherty publishes his shorthand and typewriting systems in a complete Manual, which he sells for \$2.00, and many learn from this alone. He also publishes a handsome little book, entitled "Dougherty's Shorthand Primer," of which the Phonographic World, of New York, says, "It occupies a unique field all alone," as nothing of the kind was ever published before. It is simply enough for the youngest school child, and sells at 25 cents. For six cents he will send any of our readers a copy of a little book containing twenty-five simple lessons in Dougherty's Brief Shorthand.

Write to Mr. Dougherty at any rate, but if possible see his school for yourself.

Even though you cannot go to school, we would advise you to learn Dougherty's Brief Shorthand. It will be worth much to you in various ways, and you can learn it at odd moments at home. Mr. Dougherty gives lessons by mail with great success, and at a trifling expense. Aside from the practical use to which you can put Shorthand, the mental training which it affords is a great advantage in every way. In securing help for any clerical position, experienced employers always give the preference to those who have a practical knowledge of Shorthand, because they say there is a marked difference in the way a stenographer is able to handle the work.

Phones: Bell, Hickory 227; Home, Main 227. References: K. C. National Bank of Commerce or Stock Yards Bank of Commerce.

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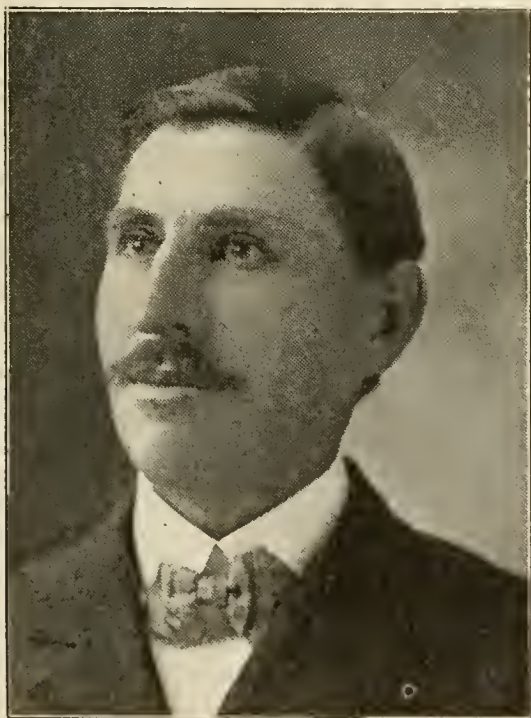


**Brightside Homestead Residence of Chas. C. Gardner,
Owner of Brightside Stock Farm, Bradford, Kans.**

Among the citizens of Wabaunsee County we want to mention Mr. Charles C. Gardiner, who was born October 25th, 1834, near Sherborn, Chenango County, New York, of Rhode Island parents. In the spring of 1842 he moved to Akron, Ohio, with his parents. In 1847 removed to the ancestral home in Rhode Island, where he attended the common school.

In the fall of 1853 he went to Providence to learn the carpenter trade; attended night school to learn drawing and architecture; united with the Congregational Church in 1855; in the fall of 1856 went to Alfred University, New York, and took a course in civil engineering. Taught school at Jamestown, R. I., the winter of 1858-59. Came to Kansas Territory in May, 1859, as a civil engineer, and pre-empted a quarter section of land four miles north of Burlingame. Nothing doing in the survey line, he went to work at carpentering. Midsummer found him at Jefferson City, Mo., as foreman in a sash and blind factory. In August, 1860, married Miss Leydia P. Buffington, of Chester County, Pa., who came to Missouri the year before with her par-

ents. Late in the fall of 1860 went into the sawmill business with his father-in-law at Stonesport, Mo., ten miles up the river from Jefferson City. The war of secession breaking out in 1861, he enrolled in the loyal home-guards of Missouri, and saw some service in the year that followed. Removed to Kansas with his family in the spring of 1865 and settled at Waveland, ten miles south of Topeka. He moved to Wabaunsee County in the spring of 1884 and commenced improving the 1,500-acre farm he still occupies. Was instrumental in having Bradford station opened in the fall of 1889 and postoffice established. Was the father of four children, Independence Day, who publishes the *Alma News*; Seydia, who married Prof. J. T. Willard, K. S. A. C.; Earnest A. and M. Maud, who married Prof. R. C. Obrecht, of University of Illinois.



W. E. SCHWANKE.

Mr. W. E. Schwanke, who lives near Alma, is breeding Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs.

The bull and heifer which started his herd were both from Gallant Knight. The Abbott 253713 is the herd-header at present, and is the animal which brought the most money at

Gifford's annual Shorthorn sale. This calf weighed 1350 pounds when but two years old.

Mr. Schwanke started breeding the Duroc-Jerseys in 1903 with Daisy 2d as a foundation. Superior is now the head of herd. The date of farrow is March 17th, 1906. He is a deep cherry and weighs 500 pounds, and is but seventeen months old. He is an excellent hog and one that you can bet on. Mr. Schwanke has permitted us to announce that he always has both hogs and cattle for sale at any time.

Mr. Schwanke handles the Iowa Stock Powders, which is meeting with great success, because it is giving excellent satisfaction and the expense is so much less than the ordinary stock powders, yet its results are better. Only two feeds are required each week. It is a conditioner and will prevent disease. He expects to call on the farmers over the county and offer the powders for sale.

We are glad some one has found cheap stock powders that will do the work, as the farmers have already made the International Stock Food Co. a nice thing by using their powders; in fact, they sport the finest buildings in the country and the fastest harness horse in the world. Now let us try the Iowa Stock Powders for a while, as their prices are reasonable.

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